

Novena to St. Maximilian Fr. Justin Rosary Hour • P. O. Box 454 • Athol Springs, NY 14010

Dear Friends and Benefactors of the Rosary Hour,

Dear Devotee of St. Maximilian,

Praised be Jesus Christ!

What a great joy it is for the Rosary Hour to celebrate the great jubilee year of 2017: with the 100th anniversary of the founding of the Knights of the Immaculata, the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady of Fatima, the 95th of the publication of the Knight of the Immaculate, the 90th of the founding of Niepokalanow and the 35th of the canonization of St. Maximilian!

St. Maximilian from his earliest years was known to say - "Allow me to be a tool in the hands of the Immaculate" - and he repeated "because to Her being the Mother of God, possesses the limitless power of the Creator" He accomplished so much during his lifetime through Mary. Even before he was ordained a priest while studying in Rome as a seminarian, he founded the *Knights of the Immaculata*, which spread quite vigorously on his return to Poland. Together with the Knights there arose the periodical *The Knight of the Immaculate*, His tender love for the Mother of God also contributed to the founding of Niepokalanów (The City of the Immaculate) in Poland and then in Japan.

St. Maksymilian is our master and guide in the recognition and worship of the Immaculate. Let us get into his words: *The Immaculata is our ideal!*

To draw near to her, to become like her, to allow her to rule over your heart and soul forever, so that she might live and work through men, so that she might love God with our hearts. To belong to her unreservedly-that is our ideal! To shine forth into our surroundings, to win souls for her, so that our neighbors will open their hearts to her, so that she might rule all hearts beating everywhere in the world, without distinction of race, nationality, or language, and that she might be in all hearts that would ever exist, until the end of the world - that is our ideal! And that her life might extend and grow in every soul that exists now or shall be, that is our precious ideal!

Soon we are approaching August 14th, the feast of St. Maximilian - a man beloved especially by every Pole and Polish American. A Novena of prayers through his intercession will precede it. Franciscan like St. Maximilian wish to serve mankind, the Mother of God, and the Most High God through evangelization and catechizations of succeeding generations of Polonia, spread beyond the boundaries of the USA and Canada, encompassing the whole world. To be able to realize this we need the help of each of you.

We sincerely invite you to take part in our Novena to St. Maximilian, which lasts from the 5th to the 13th of August. Please send your intentions on the enclosed card. May Mary along with her knight intercede in having your requests fulfilled. Let us keep in mind the words of St. Maximilian: "Every prayer through the mediation of the Immaculate and every act of doing her will brings glory to God and adores Him most perfectly (...)".

May God listen to our prayers through the intercession of Saint Maximilian and reward you a hundredfold for your kindness and generosity to our Franciscan apostolate. Entrusting all of you to the care of the Blessed Virgin Mary and the intercession of St. Maximilian Maria Kolbe we send you our most sincere greetings and wait for your reply.

In the Immaculate, with a prayer and gratitude,

Fr. Marcel and the Rosary Hour Community PS - as a thank you for participating in the novena we will send you the Prayer for peace and for an end of violence and terrorism on the world.