

Dear Devotees of St. Maximilian

Friends, Benefactors and Patrons of the Rosary Hour,

Praised be Jesus Christ!

How happy we are, that the forth Saint whose intercession we will be invoking in this year is St. Maximillian – Martyr of Love.

On January 8, we celebrated the 125th birthday of the saint. His parents, Juliusz and Marianna, raised him to love God and in special way to love the Blessed Virgin Mary.

His great love of Christ and the desire for martyrdom accompanied him along the path of his Franciscan and priestly vocation, for which he prepared himself

both in Poland and in Rome. This love and this desire followed him through all the places of his Franciscan service in Poland and in his missionary service in Japan.

The inspiration of his whole life was the **Immaculata**. To her he entrusted his love for Christ and his desire for martyrdom.

St Maximilian always let himself be led by the hand of Mary Immaculate, convinced as he liked to repeat, that "Mary will think of everything for us and, removing every anguish and difficulty, will quickly come to the aid of our corporal and spiritual needs" (SK 2556).

By the example and intercession of St. Maximilian let us entrust ourselves to the Immaculate. May she lead, direct and assist us in the daily hardships of earthly life.

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 ST. MAXIMILIAN inter-

cession 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 United States 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. Confide to St. Maximilian your problems - the great as well as the small. Please send your intentions on the enclosed card. During the novena prayer (August 5-13) and the feast of St. Maximilian (August 14), in common prayer through the intercession of St. Maximilian and celebrated Masses, Franciscan will ask for all the graces which we ask for.

May Mary along with her Knight, St. Maximilian intercede in having your requests fulfilled.

On this occasion, we ask you to support the apostolate of the Rosary Hour. Our existence also depends on your generous help.

We entrust all of you to the protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary and to the intercession of St. Maximillian Maria Kolbe. We send you our most sincere greetings and look forward to your response.

May St. Maximilian and the Mary Immaculate intercede for you in Merciful God. With a prayer and gratitude,

Br. Daniel Geary, OFM Conv.

Br. Daniel and the Rosary Hour Community

PS. As a "thank you" for taking part in this Novena Franciscans will send you Novena to St. Maximilian.

