

The consecration to Our Lady



Meditation

Dear pilgrim, on Sunday night, if you so desire, you are invited to consecrate yourself to Our Lady

I. What is a consecration?

A chalice may get consecrated so that it may only be used for Holy Mass. A baby may be consecrated to Our Lord through the baptismal rites that will free its soul from original sin and slavery to Satan.

II. Why another consecration?

But, if our soul has already been consecrated to God, what is the purpose of another consecration? **Because we are rarely faithful** to the promises of our baptism. We fall too easily in the traps and snares of the devil. Temptations still keep an attractive side for us. We do not avoid occasions, places and people that we know will lead us to sin. Too easily we tolerated criticism of our neighbor and impure looks. We neglect our prayer life and so on...

What we lack the most of, is a **sincere desire** to remain faithful to our promises, from this moment forward. Thus, by renewing our consecration, we strengthen our resolution.

III. Why a consecration to Mary?

Because of our all sins since baptism, we have learned to defile ourselves. **We are weak.** We have sinned so often so we don't dare

present ourselves to Our Father in Heaven. So, we are like a little kid who runs to his mother's apron.

And Mary is our Mother, and a very good mother.

Indeed, on the point of dying, "*Jesus, seeing His Mother and, standing next to Her, the disciple He loved, said to His Mother "Woman, behold your son". Then to the disciple "Behold your mother". From this moment forward, the disciple took her as his own*" (Jn XIX, 26-27)

So, why should we consecrate ourselves to Mary? Well, simply in order to **better belong to God**

IV. What engagements must I commit to?

Dear Pilgrim, through the consecration to Mary, you will imitate St John, and **you will chose Mary as your Mother**. This way, you put yourself in Her service, similar to a serving knight. In order to seal this engagement, you may in the future decide to **recite each day a rosary**, or at least **a decade**. That's an excellent resolution.

A few other desirable resolutions to contemplate:

- Take Mary as a model and ask yourself, every time you need to make a decision, "*What would Mary do?*"
- If you are finding your trials too heavy to undertake, **offer them up to Her**. Presented to Her Son, through Her own hands, these trials will become more meritorious, and you will see how She will make your crosses much lighter to carry.
- And finally, please **often give Her your joys and sorrows**, in total abandonment. The famous saying never fails: "*A server to Mary never perishes. His Mother already takes care of him.*"

Now, dear pilgrim, let's read together the consecration to Mary from St Maximilian Kolbe, that we will recite on Sunday night at the bivouac of Gas, so that those of you who want to make this consecration or renew it, may prepare themselves well:

Act of consecration from St Maximilian Kolbe

O Immaculata, Queen of heaven and earth, refuge of sinners and our most loving Mother, God has willed to entrust the entire order of mercy to you. I, N..., a repentant sinner, cast myself at your feet

humbly imploring you to take me with all that I am and have, wholly to yourself as your possession and property. Please make of me, of all my powers of soul and body, of my whole life, death and eternity, whatever most pleases you. If it pleases you, use all that I am and have without reserve, wholly to accomplish what was said of you: "She will crush your head," and, "You alone have destroyed all heresies in the world."

Let me be a fit instrument in your immaculate and merciful hands for introducing and increasing your glory to the maximum in all the many strayed and indifferent souls, and thus help extend as far as possible the blessed kingdom of the most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

For wherever you enter you obtain the grace of conversion and growth in holiness, since it is through your hands that all graces come to us from the most Sacred Heart of Jesus.

Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary of a newly baptized child

“Holy Mary, Whom Jesus gave us as a mother on Calvary, we present to Thee this child whom God has entrusted to us. Through baptism he became a brother of Jesus Christ: we offer it to Thee, we dedicate it to Thee, we entrust it to Thy maternal care, tenderness and vigilance. That by Thy intercession God protects him in his body and defends it in his soul; If he should go astray, pursue him with Thy maternal love, and bring him back so that he may obtain pardon from Thy Son, and be reborn to life. And we, her father and mother, help us in the task we will have to fulfill with him. Help us to pass on to him the teachings of faith, to teach him to live according to the law of Christ, so that one day we may all be gathered together in the Father's house, in the privacy of Thy Son and in the joy of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

After this reading, let's remain in silence, as we normally do after each meditation.

Quote

“Do we want to become rich in the goods of heaven? Let us go to Mary and find all the graces we can desire: graces of humility, purity, chastity, love of God and neighbor, contempt for the earth and desire of heaven” St Cure of Ars

