

Come, Holy Spirit, Living in Mary!

“Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary. Help me to praise you for such a quick, easy, and secure **path to holiness!**” This is the prayer at the end of the Seventh Day of Meditation by Fr. Michael Gaitley in 33 Days to Morning Glory leading to Marian **consecration!** It reminds us that, as preached so powerfully by St. Louis de Montfort, the quickest, easiest and most secure way to join Jesus in Heaven is through Mary. In every one of the 33 Days to Morning Glory, the ending prayer begins with those powerful words: **“Come, Holy Spirit, living in Mary.”** On the Feast Day of the Assumption of Mary into Heaven (last week Wednesday, August 15), many of us completed or renewed our Marian Consecration through the 33 Days to Morning Glory. It was indeed a day of glory, a day of joy celebrating Mary being assumed body and soul into Heaven, celebrating Mary being reunited with her son JESUS. They had been together for 33 years on earth, from now on they will be together in Heaven forever and ever!

In my homily on August 15, at both the 9 am and 7 pm Masses, I preached about Marian Consecration and Holiness. I also preached about the total **union of Mary and the Holy Spirit**, and how both Mary and the Holy Spirit can help us to be united with God in Heaven. I read the shortest version of the Marian Consecration Prayer found in the Appendix One (page 139) of Fr. Gaitley's Book on 33 Days to Morning Glory. Here it is:

“Mary, I want to be a saint.

I know that you also want me to be a saint and that it's your God-given mission to form me into one. So, Mary, at this moment, on this day, I freely choose to give you my full permission to do your work in me, with your spouse, the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

We all want to be a saint. A saint is someone totally in union with God. A saint is someone in Heaven, someone who will never be separated from God. The Marian Consecration is to allow Mary with her Spouse the Holy Spirit to work within our hearts and to form us into saints. Sounds simple? It is. With Mary and the Holy Spirit everything is possible. We just have to let go! We just have to surrender our will to **their will**, which is **God's will**. Yes, the Holy Spirit, Spirit of Jesus, is God, so the Holy Spirit's will is God's will. Also, Mary's will is God's will, as Mary and her Spouse the Holy Spirit are **one!**

You might ask, “Why go through Mary to be with Jesus?” We do not have to. We can go to Jesus through the Holy Spirit, or we can go to Jesus directly. However, going to Jesus through Mary, or through the Holy Spirit living in Mary, is the quickest, easiest and most secure way. This was one of the greatest insights God gave to St. Louis de Montfort over 300 years ago, and it was confirmed through other great saints, including St. Maximilian Kolbe, St. Teresa of Calcutta, and St. John Paul II; three giant saints of the 20th century.

Fr. Gaitley notes that *“when we are fully consecrated to Mary, when we have developed a relationship of **childlike dependence on her motherly care**, she is always with us whenever we pray, just as Jesus is always with us whenever we pray to the Father...”* Kolbe's main idea here is that the Father, the Son, and Mary, who is always united with the Holy Spirit (while she remains a human), do not live along parallel lines. Rather, **Jesus, Mary, and the Holy Spirit are always united together** in one movement “upward” to the **Father**. Whenever we turn to one of them, we join **all of them** in their one-upward movement... They form a unity and work as a team - though with different roles - to bring all back to the Father.”

If you have not yet read the 33 Days to Morning Glory, I invite you to begin on **Tuesday, September 4**, so that you can complete this **Marian Consecration** on **Sunday, October 7**, the Feast Day of Our Lady of the Rosary. On that day, our parish will be blessed for the third time to host the original **International Pilgrim Statue** of Our Lady of Fatima. We will also be honored with the presence of Bishop Dorsonville that evening (details to come). Another important date for all of us is **Sunday, September 9**: celebration of our 38th birthday as a parish! Picnic following the 11:30 a.m. Mass, and 38 hours of Adoration, September 7th thru 8th.

Come Holy Spirit, living in Mary! Come Holy Spirit! Fill our hearts with the fire of your love!

**One in Christ,
Fr. Alain**