

**MARIAN CONSECRATION: APOSTLES OF THE VIRGIN TO FULFILL HIS DESIGNS, ACCORDING TO SAINT LOUIS DE MONTFORT**

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Foundress

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“Jesus Christ has come to the world by means of the Blessed Virgin Mary and through Her, He also ought to reign in the world.” (True Devotion to Mary, 1)

Who will transform the world? For St. Louis de Montfort, there is no doubt that only God can achieve such a difficult task. He will intervene with a “torrent of fire, love and justice” through the power of the Holy Spirit and through the many and varied maternal acts of Mary. This divine intervention will take place most particularly by means of “the apostles of the latter times.” (TD, 58) “Their task will be double: to destroy sin and to build up the Kingdom of Jesus.” Jesus will reign when, through the intervention of Mary, He will be known, loved and served.” (TD, 49) “This kingdom will be in the hearts.” (TD, 113)

1. Reign of Mary
2. Powerful outpouring of the Holy Spirit
3. Which will establish in hearts: the reign of Christ



**When will this take place?**

“When the Mother of God is the Queen and Lady of all Hearts, submitting them fully to the authority of Her Son, then marvelous things will happen upon this earth, where the Holy Spirit, finding His loving Bride reproduced in souls, will descend with abundance and will fill them with His gifts, particularly with the gift of wisdom, through great works of grace...” (TD, 117) My dear brothers, when will that happy time come upon us, that age of Mary, in which many chosen souls, fruit of the efforts of Mary, and lost in the abyss of Her interior, will become living images of Mary, to love and glorify Jesus Christ? This time will not come until that time in which this devotion that I teach will be known and practiced. May your kingdom come, may your kingdom of Mary come!

**For this reason, the Blessed Virgin Mary ought to be known and loved (TD, 55)**

Yes, God desires that His Blessed Mother be known, loved and honored now more than ever. Which will take place if those who are called, enter and penetrate into the perfect, interior practice of the Marian consecration.

- They will know the greatness of Her maternal mediation and Her mission in one’s personal life, in the Church and in the world.
- They will consecrate themselves completely to Her service as Her servants and slaves of love.
- They will experience Her sweetness and her maternal goodness and they will love Her tenderly as Her most special children.
- They will experience the mercies of which She is endowed and the great need that they have of Her assistance, turning to Her in all things as their most Beloved Advocate and Mediatrix before Christ.
- They will know that Mary is the surest, easiest, shortest and most perfect means to come to Christ and they will consecrate themselves to Her in body and soul without any reserve, so as to belong in such a manner to Christ.

Fullest revelation of Mary: to experience Her presence in a most particular way because, “Mary ought to shine more than ever in the latter times, in mercy, power and grace.” (TD, 50)

1. Merciful love to sinners
2. Power against the enemies of God
3. Grace: obtained for the faithful disciples of Christ

**Spiritual Leader and Teacher of the Apostles**

**Who are they?**

- “the Almighty and His Blessed Mother ought to form great saints who will be greater in holiness than the majority of other saints as the Cedars of Lebanon exceed the shrubs”. (TD 47)
- “Great saints, full of grace and dynamism” (TD 48)
- True disciples, courageous soldiers and faithful servants of Christ (TD 50, 58)
- Chosen souls in whom the Blessed Virgin reigns fully, becoming living images of Mary (TD 217)
- A squadron of tough and courageous soldiers of Jesus and Mary, both men and women, who will battle the world, the devil and corrupt nature, in the most dangerous of times that are yet to come.
- Such will be the great men and women whom Mary will form by mandate of the Almighty so as to extend His empire (TD, 59). She will form them because “only to Mary has God given the keys to the treasures of His

Divine Love and the power to enter into the most sublime and most secret paths of perfection and of leading others to enter." (TD, 45)

### **Their Mission?**

It consists in executing a double movement: to destroy and to build up—to destroy with their lives of grace, the work of the enemy and to build up, with that same holiness, the kingdom of the Heart of Christ. (Secret of Mary, 59)

The first requires actions against the forces of evil:

- These great souls, full of grace and of zeal, will be chosen to oppose the enemies of God, who will battle in all places. (TD, 48)
- They will fight with one hand, crushing and defeating heresies, those who divide, all idolatries and impiety (TD, 48)
- They will thunder against sin, sending forth rays against the world of sin, with crushing blows against the devil and his demons; and with the two-edged sword of the Word of God, they will pierce through all those to whom they are sent to by the Father. (TD, 57)
- In his prayer for the Montfort missionaries: "they will step on the head of the enemy (12)... directing their ardent prayers towards Heaven, taking them into their hand as powerful instrument for the conversion of sinners. (25)"
- With the other hand they will edify the temple of God (TD, 48)
- Their life and their ministry will renew the face of the earth and will edify the Church (PM 17)
- In union with Mary, they will crush the enemy and will bring about the triumph of Christ.

### **Their Spirituality**

Includes 4 aspects:

#### **1. Union with God**

- Great souls full of grace (TD, 48)
- Rich in the graces of God which Mary distributes to them abundantly
- Great in holiness before God
- Possessing a superior, fervent zeal
- Assisted primarily by Divine providence (TD, 54)
- Offerings of love to God: they will bear the gold of love in their hearts, the incense of prayer and the myrrh of mortification in their bodies
- They will live with the pure desire and intention of the glory of God
- True disciples of Christ, they will be radical followers of His gospel
- Totally docile to the Holy Spirit: with great mystical availability: "floating clouds, moving by the most subtle blow of the Holy Spirit." (TD 58)

#### **2. Apostolic Zeal**

- They will be filled with zeal for souls
- Their greatest mission: "they will be lighted torches, ministers of the Lord, who will ignite in all places the fire of the divine love." (TD, 56)
- They will be sharp arrows in the hand of our Lady, ready to pierce through evil
- They will be the good order of Christ in all places.
- They will be the authentic apostles of the last times, whom the Lord of hosts will give His Word and the strength necessary in order to bring about great wonders and achieve glorious triumphs of grace. (TD, 58)
- In the areas where they preach, they will leave nothing but the gold of charity, which is the fulfillment of all law.
- They will pour forth a torrent of the Word of God and of eternal life, bringing light against sin, the world, error and confusion. (TD, 57)
- They will extend the reign of the Sacred Heart and of the Virgin Mary in all places, even in those hearts which are most far away.

#### **3. Profound Marian Experience**

- They will possess an exceptional devotion to our Lady, who will enlighten them with Her light, nourish them with Her milk, sustain them with Her arm and protect them, in such a manner that they will battle with one hand and build up with the other. (TD, 58)
- They will belong completely to the Virgin Mary
- They will be Her true children and servants
- They will be Her heal, in order to crush the forces of the enemy
- chosen souls, fruit of the efforts of Mary, and lost in the abyss of Her interior, will become living images of Mary, to love and glorify Jesus Christ (TD, 217)
- She will produce great saints: "When Mary enters and establishes herself in a soul, she realizes there the wonders of grace that She alone can accomplish, because She alone is the Fecund Virgin, who does not have

and will never have, a likeness in purity and fecundity. Mary has collaborated with the Holy Spirit in the work of all time, the Incarnation of the Word. Therefore, She will also achieve the greatest works in the latter times: the formation and education of the greatest saints, who will live in the end times, is reserved to Her, because only this singular and miraculous Virgin can realize, in union with the Holy Spirit, those most singular and extraordinary things. (TD, 35)

- She will reign in their hearts: "Mary has received from God a far-reaching dominion over the souls of the elect. Otherwise she could not make her dwelling-place in them as God the Father has ordered her to do, and she could not conceive them, nourish them, and bring them forth to eternal life as their mother. She could not have them for her inheritance and her possession and form them in Jesus and Jesus in them. She could not implant in their heart the roots of her virtues, nor be the inseparable associate of the Holy Spirit in all these works of grace. None of these things, I repeat, could she do unless she had received from the Almighty rights and authority over their souls. For God, having given her power over his only-begotten and natural Son, also gave her power over his adopted children - not only in what concerns their body - which would be of little account - but also in what concerns their soul." (TD, 37)

- "Mary is the Queen of heaven and earth by grace as Jesus is king by nature and by conquest. But as the kingdom of Jesus Christ exists primarily in the heart or interior of man, according to the words of the Gospel, "The kingdom of God is within you", so the kingdom of the Blessed Virgin is principally in the interior of man, that is, in his soul. It is principally in souls that she is glorified with her Son more than in any visible creature. So we may call her, as the saints do, Queen of our hearts." (TD, 38)

#### 4. Friends of the Cross

They will be true disciples of Christ

- "Lastly, we know that imitating his poverty, his humility, his contempt of the world and his love, they will point out the narrow way to God in pure truth according to the holy Gospel and that they will not spare or heed or fear any man, however powerful he may be. (TD, 59)

- "Deeply purified in the fire of great tribulations and deeply united to God." (TD, 56)

- "On their bodies, they will bear the myrrh of mortification" (TD, 56)

- The heel is wounded in the battle, but in the end will triumph: "promoting the true Marian devotion will bring them many enemies and persecutions." (TD 48)

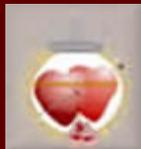
- Characteristics: "They will have the two-edged sword of the word of God in their mouths and the blood-stained standard of the Cross on their shoulders. They will carry the crucifix in their right hand and the rosary in their left, and the holy names of Jesus and Mary on their heart. The simplicity and self-sacrifice of Jesus will be reflected in their whole behavior."

#### Marian Identification

"One of the greatest expressions of the spirituality of Saint Louis de Montfort refers to the identification of the faithful with Mary in Her love for Jesus, in Her service of Jesus. Meditating on the well-known text of Saint Ambrose: 'May the soul of Mary be in each one to glorify the Lord; may the spirit of Mary be in each one in order to exult God.' (Explanation of Luke, 12:26; PL 15, 1561), writes: 'How blessed is a soul when it is totally possessed and governed by the spirit of Mary, which is a gentle and firm, zealous and prudent, humble and intrepid, pure and fecund spirit!' (TD, 258)". (John Paul II, Letter to Montfortian religious family, 2003)

Marian identification is totally orientated towards Jesus, as we see in the prayer: "At last, my most beloved and loving Mother, if it be possible, grant me to have no other spirit but your own spirit to know Christ and His divine designs; that I have no other soul but your own, to praise and glorify the Lord; that I have no other heart but your Heart, to love God with a pure and ardent charity as you do." (SM, 68)

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