# Gesus Living in Mary

Monthly Newsletter of Formation & Information - Association of Mary Queen of All Hearts



Fr. Angelo Sorti, Fr Mario Belotti (Provincial), Mariane, Mgr Henrik Hoser, Fr Giovanni M. Personeni & Fr Nikola Tandara.

My name is *Mariane*, I am a consecrated woman with vows pronounced at the Montfortian Regional Spirituality Center of Trinitapoli in Italy.

by Mariane Magalhães de Souza, from the mission in Medjugorje

### A small seed grows in Medjugorje

Since 2017, together with other consecrated persons of the Association Mary Queen of All Hearts, we have taken care of a house of the same Association in Medjugorje, in Bosnia-Herzegovina...

RMC RMC

MISSION

>> **p. 7** 

No. 32 December 2020

# "My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord"





DECEMBER 13, 2020; 3rd Sunday of Advent DE GAUDETE - Year B

#### by Pierrette MAIGNÉ

**HYMN** (Luke 1: 46b-48. 49-50. 53-54)

R/ My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord.

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my savior. For he has looked upon his handmaid's lowliness; behold, from now on will all ages call me blessed. The Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

His mercy is from age to age to those who fear him.

The hungry he has filled with good things; the rich he has sent away empty. He has helped Israel his servant, remembering his mercy.

In this time of Advent, the liturgy of the 3rd Sunday offers us this canticle of the «Magnificat» instead of the psalm.

Let's go a little deeper into this well-known text that we risk missing out on all the richness it contains.

Mary sings this song during her visit to her cousin Elizabeth in response to the proclaimed blessing: "Most blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb."

Mary takes up to express her wonder at the work of salvation and her faith the words pronounced by her ancestors and which we can find in the psalms. Her prayer is nourished and is expressed by his biblical words repeated throughout the ages.

Mary is inscribed in the history of salvation and following her ancestor Hannah (cf. 1Sam 2, 1-10), she lets her joy be expressed. We also find there the echo of the 1st reading (Isaiah 61, 10-11). Why not, following them, also bless the Lord and let our joy burst forth: "brothers, be always in joy", Saint Paul told us this Sunday. Cultivating joy in these gloomy times is so essential in order to keep our eyes fixed on God still at work today as yesterday and again tomorrow.





Mary is entirely turned towards God and towards his work: "His mercy is from age to age to those who fear him". Yes God is faithful to his promises and he fulfills what he had promised: "For Yahweh is good, his faithful love is everlasting, his constancy from age to age" (Psalm 99:5).



Mary proclaims that the work of God is a work of liberation and that God's predilection is for the little ones.

The little ones are those who know that they cannot count on their strength, their intelligence, their power and who live this confident abandonment in the hands of God.





Since the liberation of Egypt, the quintessential "work of God", Israel has known that God is the Savior of his people and each time it has forgotten him, despite the reminders of the prophets, it has known the disastrous consequences.

Now it is our turn to sing also our Magnificat: for eternal is his love.

May Mary prepare our hearts to welcome "the Savior". ■

# Consecration

### Christ is the Center

Our Christian life has a purpose. At the center of that purpose in life, there is Jesus Christ. **Montfort's**Spirituality is Christocentric in nature.

Montfort proclaims his Christocentrism in these words: "reaching Jesus perfectly, loving him tenderly, and serving him faithfully" (TD 62). Or again: "seeking the perfection that can be attained only by union with Jesus" (TD 78). Or in another part he says: "being conformed, united and consecrated to Jesus" (TD 120). Still: "seeking union with Jesus, our last end" (TD 117), "attaining union with our Lord" (TD 152) or "to go to Jesus and to acquire holiness through union with him" (TD 159).

by Dola Dhanush

As we can see, that goal is described in words: to reach, to seek, to attain, to acquire...perfection, union, conformation, consecration, holiness. This is not something abstract, because it is related to a living Person: Jesus Christ. We go to him, he is to be loved and served.





Therefore, the center of our existence is not ourselves. Christocentrism get rid of egocentrism. That is why in order to make Christ our center, **we need to empty ourselves of ourselves.** In TD 127 Montfort says that to fill ourselves with the spirit of Jesus Christ through Mary in the Holy Spirit, we need to empty ourselves of the worldly spirit that is within us, which is clearly contrary to the spirit of Christ.

We need to have within us the sentiments that are in Jesus Christ, as Saint Paul says: «Have among yourselves the same attitude that is also yours in Christ Jesus who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God something to be grasped. Rather, he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave» (Ph 2:5-7).■

Pope Francis, GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE, no. 14:



«To be holy does not require being a bishop, a priest or a religious. We are frequently tempted to think that holiness is only for those who can withdraw from ordinary affairs to spend much time in prayer. That is not the case. We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves. Are you called to the consecrated life? Be holy by living out your commitment with joy.

Are you married? Be holy by loving and caring for your husband or wife, as Christ does for the Church. Do you work for a living? Be holy by labouring with integrity and skill in the service of your brothers and sisters. Are you a parent or grandparent? Be holy by patiently teaching the little ones how to follow Jesus. Are you in a position of authority? Be holy by working for the common good and renouncing personal gain».

## Mission

# A small seed grows in Medjugorje by Mariane Magalh

by Mariane Magalhães de Souza, from the mission in Medjugorje



My name is **Mariane**, I am a consecrated woman with vows pronounced at the Montfortian Regional Spirituality Center of Trinitapoli in Italy.

Since 2017, together with other consecrated persons of the Association Mary Queen of All Hearts, we have taken care of a house of the same Association in Medjugorje, in Bosnia-Herzegovina, where a Montfortian Spirituality Center is currently established by the Superior General and run by the laity of Italy and Poland, in close collaboration with the Montfort Missionaries.

Let me tell it from the beginning ...

« It is a land of many martyrs, many simple people who gave their lives to keep the faith received at baptism.»

Medjugorge is a small remote town in Bosnia-Herzegovina, a territory belonging to the ex-Yugoslavia that acquired its autonomy only in 1995.

In this part of the country, the population is made up of Catholics from Croatia, they are very pious. Prayer has always been the central point of their life and their days. It is a land of many martyrs, many simple people who gave their lives to keep the faith received at baptism.

« In 2018, Pope Francis sent an apostolic visitor, Mgr Henrik Hoser, with recognized experience.»

Medjugorje has been a worldwide pilgrimage destination since the Virgin Mary appeared to six young people in 1981. Since then numerous phenomena continue in Medjugorje; they are secondary to so many miracles of conversion and reconciliation with God, with the Church and with our brothers and sisters.

All these things have been followed for a few years by the authorities of the Church. In 2018, Pope Francis sent an apostolic visitor, Mgr Henrik Hoser, with recognized experience. He is a Polish Archbishop, a former missionary in Africa for most of his life; he has followed the Marian apparitions in Kibeho (Rwanda), he is a friend of Saint John Paul II and an ardent defender of the importance of Consecration to Jesus through the hands of Mary taught by Saint Louis Marie de Montfort.



Since 1990, we organize pilgrimages in Medjugroje. We have observed that people, once they have had a profound experience of God during a moment of faith awakening, they feel a need to deepen it more and more, so that this gift can grow and mature in their life of faith. To this, the true devotion to Mary proposed by Montfort has always been shown to be an appropriate response to make it grow, starting from Medjugorje, all those who have begun to rediscover their baptism. In fact, from the numerous groups in preparation for the Consecration to Jesus through the hands of Mary, groups have been born that, before, have made this pilgrimage.

Certainly, these people, after having received such a beautiful gift, want to return to Medjugorje. But it is not enough for them to repeat the initial experience. They want to live it more deeply, in meditation and silent prayer and, taking advantage of these days of separation from everyday life, also deepen the spirit of the slavery of love for Jesus through Mary, with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Hence the idea, or almost better the need for a house, for a familiar, welcoming, spiritual and intimate place at the same time, where Montfortian Spirituality is breathed during the days of the pilgrimage. Not a tourist trip lived in a hotel room, but a time when everyday life stops for a moment to learn to live it in an atmosphere of prayer, to reflect in silence, to take advantage of the joy of simple things.

« To this, the true devotion to Mary proposed by Montfort has always been shown to be an appropriate response to make it grow, starting from Medjugorje, all those who have begun to rediscover their baptism.»



We have about 15 beds available and for four years we have welcomed families or small groups consecrated to Jesus through Mary, who want to live a few days of retreat in an atmosphere of Montfortian Spirituality. Over the last two years, we have also started to receive slightly larger groups seeking a moment of catechesis to illustrate the true devotion to Mary taught by Montfort, well known in Medjugorje. So, we have expanded our small center: in addition to the house on two floors, we have two other rooms available, one for meetings or interviews and a small chapel.

We have witnessed numerous miracles of grace operated by the Lord through Mary: some souls have come here, shortly before death, to prepare to meet the Lord, on the other hand numerous reconciliations, numerous souls have arrived full of anguish and anger and have returned home full of peace. So many small signs of light and hope in Europe that seems increasingly submerged in the darkness of the loss of faith. Many hearts touched by love are available to build the Kingdom of Jesus in the world through Mary, having found the strength to persevere in the service of God and their brothers.



On July 2, 2020, the Montfortian Spirituality Center "Totus Tuus" was officially erected by decree of the Superior General of the Montfort Missionaries and, on October 17, 2020, we have received a visit from Bishop Hoser who has blessed our presence pronouncing simple words but loaded with a deep meaning. This blessing has also been a missionary mandate for us:

"This place is for your sanctification; you are also called to work for the sanctification of all the people; then receive God's blessing ... "

All of us have lived our missionary mission with great simplicity, but at the same time with great depth and concentration. At this time when it seems that darkness and fears dominate, a light of hope, a very strong ray of Mercy must dazzle our lives. During these three years, we have planted a small seed in Medjugorje; today we experience the emotion that we feel every time we have planted a seed: that of seeing it germinate.

« During these three years, we have planted a small seed in Medjugorje; today we experience the emotion that we feel every time we have planted a seed: that of seeing it germinate.»



Any small shoot should be cultivated with care, as Montfort himself teaches us: "This devotion is the mustard seed of which the Gospel speaks (Mt 13,31; Mk 4,3), which, apparently being the smallest of all the seeds grow and rise so high that the birds of the sky, that is, the predestined ones, nest in its branches, rest in its shade during the heat of the sun and take shelter from the wild beasts" (SM 70).

Providentially, our very international presence is also very significant, it is a characteristic desired by Heaven for this small Montfort Mission. We pray the rosary in four languages before Holy Mass; we are a few, but from five different nations, symbolizing almost all the continents that come here to meet Jesus through Mary, in the Holy Spirit.

May all the peoples of the earth find Mary and thus find Jesus in her arms! We are all called, without exception, to be small instruments to lead each one to discover this wonderful tree of Consecration to Jesus through the hands of Mary so that all souls can find a spiritual refreshment and a safe path towards holiness.

# Testimony

## "Now, I am part of the Montfort Family, I am very happy and I thank God for that!"

by Capucine LAFAYE (Cherbourg, Normandy - France)

My name is CAPUCINE LAFAYE, I was born on July 15, 1975, in Fontainebleau (77). As my father is a military man, we moved in 1977 to live in Orléans where my brother Jean-Baptiste was born. Then in 1981, we were in Compiègne for the birth of Alexis, my second brother.

I was baptized on July 28, 1980 in the little church of Baubigny (50) where my family come on vacation every year. We settled there in 1986. My father is an atheist despite a religious education, my mother, who was also raised in the faith, moved away, but then approached God again in 1980, from where I was baptized the same year when I was 5 years old.

I would go to Mass with my mother from time to time and I have followed some catechetical courses, made my first Communion and my Confirmation, then I distanced myself from God because I did not truly adhere to the Catholic faith.

I studied psychology and worked with young children in kindergartens for 4 years, but I was not happy in what I was doing and wanted to discover the world. I left for Mexico where I taught FLE (Français Langue Etrangère = French Foreign Language) courses at the Catholic University of La Salle in Mexico.

After 3-4 years I started to get sick, to suffer from extreme fatigue, increasingly violent headaches and dizziness. Finding no remedies in the place and not being able to work, I returned to France. Upon my arrival I went to my mother's house (my parents having divorced when I was 17 years old) who has taken me several times to a prayer group where they prayed for my healing.

They advised me to go to a worship and healing assembly. I went and on the 3rd day, Sunday March 6, 2011, I experienced a conversion by receiving the body of Christ as well as a physical and interior healing. My life changed, I was happy, I had found Christ, felt his love, received his forgiveness and loved him madly.

From this day on, I sought to know more about God, through his Word, his Church, living the Sacraments regularly and I suddenly felt that he called me to give myself to him in consecrated celibacy.

A few days later I discovered Saint Teresa of Ávila through her writings, then Saint John of the Cross and I was thinking of entering the Carmel, but I have not found a place where I wanted to stay.

At the end of July 2011, I went to Saint Laurent-sur-Sèvre to participate in a charismatic session. On August 1, I was in the basilica next to the tomb of Father de Montfort, I have seen the book of the "Love of Eternal Wisdom" and I was very attracted to this book, as if I had just found a treasure. I then felt the presence of Mary in me after hearing the name of Our Lady of La Salette. I started crying without knowing why, despite I was happy and in great peace a few minutes before. I did not pray much to Mary at the time, I preferred to address her Son directly, but since that day, no doubt thanks to the intercession of Father de Montfort, I realized that I had in Mary a Mother and I started to get closer to her.

During all these years, since my conversion and until now, I have had a spiritual father who accompanied me in what I lived and who helped me to follow the will of God.

I went to Lourdes for the first time in October 2011 with the pilgrimage of the Rosary, then to Ars - La Salette - Le Laus in June 2012. In November 2012, I was in the Carmel of Mary-Virgin-Missionary, to know this community and see if the Lord he called me there, then a few days in Ars again.

Since my conversion, I felt a call to pray for the priests and Divine Providence that has led me to the Priestly Home of Ars-sur-Formans, a town of the Saint Cure of Ars where I stayed for 1 and a half years living in community with 4 consecrated women. She gave French courses to foreign seminarians, helped in the reception of passing priests and in the seminary library.

In August 2013, I did a 10-day Ignatian retreat. I was happy in Ars, but the Lord has shown me that he was waiting for me elsewhere, that he wanted me to get to know him more by studying the Holy Bible. I went to the Stadium of Notre-Dame de Vie, in Venasque (84) where I have followed a year of Formation in the Transmission of the Faith. Then, not knowing where to go and without money to continue my studies, I have returned to Cherbourg (50) and I have looked for work. I have kept 3 children for several months, I went to pick them up at school and tried to transmit the Faith to them, at the request of their parents.



I started to get involved in the Parish of Cherbourg, I was a catechist, with two groups of children, two days a week. I also had the responsibility of a group of children to the Teresian Mission; where we met to pray for the priests. Since my return from the Stadium de Notre-Dame de Vie, I had in my heart the desire to make God known and to make him loved, particularly through prayer. After speaking with the parish priest, I proposed weekly meetings to children between 3-5 years and 5-7 years to help them to discover silent prayer and lead them to open their hearts to the presence of God. It has been a time of grace where the children welcomed the Love of God and where they were happy to come every time.

I did not have a job in 2017 and I gave some free courses outside the contract at a school, the Holy Family. In September 2018, I was asked to give some courses to some students to prepare them for some BTS tests (BTS = Brevet de Technicien Supérieur, in English: The Diploma of Advanced Technician).

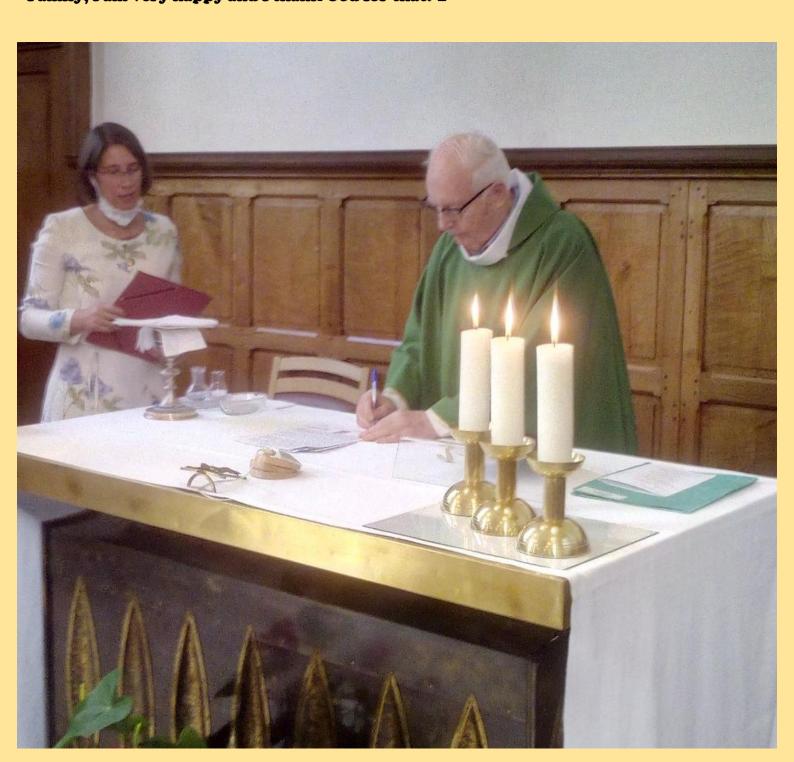


« I had in my heart the desire to make God known and to make him loved, particularly through prayer.» In July 2019, I went to a Catholic rally in Monterfil, near Montfort-sur-Meu. I stopped to visit Father de Montfort's birth house and to pray in the village church. I have been wanting to stay there for a few years but I didn't have the opportunity to do so. At the end of the assembly, on the last day, I met a Montfortian Associate with whom I spoke a little, telling her that I still did not know where the Lord was waiting for me. She came an hour later after the Eucharist because she had received in her heart that the Lord was asking her to come and find me, she understood that it was to introduce me to the Company of Mary. She was as surprised as I was, she began to ask me if I knew Father de Montfort, I replied that the "Love of Eternal Wisdom" was my favorite book after the Bible. Then we talked a lot about the Montfortian Family and everything she told me corresponded to what I lived or wanted to live. After this meeting we have exchanged our information and she has given me the contacts of Montfort Missionaries to make my request for Consecration and to be able to join the Association Mary Queen of All Hearts.

Father Pierre Grosperrin, SMM put me in touch with Sr. Chantal Rabier, DW to prepare for the Consecration to Jesus Eternal and Incarnate Wisdom through the hands of Mary. I went to Saint Laurent-sur-Sèvre for 3 days in January and February for these meetings, then I received some teachings by email and exchanged with Sr. Chantal when it was impossible to meet.

I went back and stayed there from September 11 to 13 for the last meeting, and the Consecration that took place on Sunday September 13, 2020 in the Chapel of the Founders in Saint Laurent-sur-Sèvre, during the Eucharist presided over by Father Jacques Arrouet, SMM. Then I contacted Father Arnold Suhardi, SMM to express my desire to be a member of the Association Mary Queen of All Hearts and to live celibacy as a Montfortian laywoman. Now I am part of the Montfort Family, I am very happy and I thank God for that!

« I went to Saint Laurentsur-Sèvre for 3 days in January and February for these meetings, then I received some teachings by email and exchanged with Sr. Chantal when it was impossible to meet.»



## News

## "ASSOCIATION OF MARY QUEEN OF ALL HEARTS IN DENMARK

#### by Fr. Stephen Holm, Montfortian Associate

The Association - formerly called "ArchConfraternity" - was founded in Denmark around 1940 by a Montfort Missionary, Father Joseph Mesters, but then it disappeared by itself. In 1995, at my initiative, in agreement with our bishop and Father General Bill Considine, SMM it was re-founded in Denmark with the Center Office in Slagelse, then from 2011, in Sorø.





The first Monday of the month, the Montfortian International Day of Prayer (cf. Montfortian Today, n° 130.1 & 2), is the monthly meeting day for some 30 members living in Denmark. We also meet on March 25 and December 8. On the first Monday in May, we simultaneously celebrate the feast of Father de Montfort and Sr. Marie Louise of Jesus.

All members cannot participate every time, due to the great distances that exist among some members and the place of the meetings. For some, it is a hundred kilometers, not to mention the members living in Féroé Islands. If the meeting is held at the "Montfort House" in Sorø, the residence of the Montfortian Community, we normally start our meetings at 5pm in our chapel.

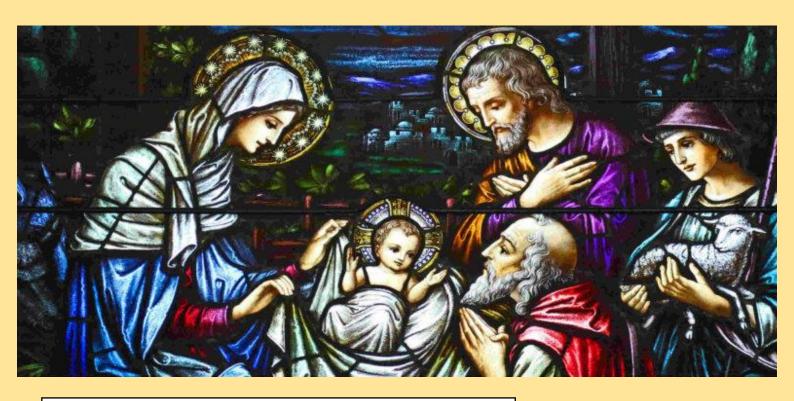
At each prayer meeting, we have Holy Mass, followed by an hour of prayer. These prayers are the evening prayer, the Fiery Prayer composed by Father de Montfort for obtaining good Missionaries and the rosary with the intention of the day. After Mass, we share a meal together. When the summer weather permits, we eat outside in the garden.

But, two particular situations arise. First, we grow old; second, I am no longer a parish priest (formerly I served in Danish parishes with the old Montfortian tradition: Slagelse-Kalundborg-Holbäk) and as the consequence I have less access to people. But our home page: www.montfort.dk - with links to various videos - and our Facebook page "Montfortgruppen" still bear witness to Montfortian life in the Great North.

#### Remember us in your prayers.

### MERRY CHRISTMAS 2020

### & HAPPY NEW YEAR 2021



In order to save man, God

Decided on a marvelous mystery:

He becomes what we are,

Making us become what He is.

Montfort, Hymn 64:1-2

The most high Lord lowered Himself
To raise us to heaven.
He came into our lowliness
To grant us His glorious life.

## ABANDONMENT TO PROVIDENCE







- 1. Let us admire Providence
  Guiding all things to their goal.
  This supreme prudence
  And sovereign order,
  Knows, rules and arranges
  Everything, even the least,
  Strongly and gently,
  Without any confusion.
- 2. The entire universe proclaims her,
  At all times and everywhere
  The entire earth is filled
  With her marvelous order
  The seasons, one after the other,
  The skies, rolling on forever
  All beings, influencing one another
  And lending each other aid.

- 3. The worm of conscience affirms it, As does punishment for sin We believed well hidden And unknown to anyone; Finally, every creature Tells us, although silently. God leads me, God sustains me, God always within me.
- 4. This wisdom, extended
  From one end to the other,
  In the blink of an eye, in a flash,
  Knows and orders all.
  She disposes and arranges
  In such beautiful array,
  From the greatest archangel
  To the tiniest worm.

5. She watches over everything Yet fools are unaware; Without it, the smallest leaf Can not fall to earth. She controls the thunder, The wind and the clouds, The dust of the earth And the gales on the seas.

6. God knows our wretchedness
And all of our needs,
And since He is our Father,
He takes great care of us all.
He joins His immense power
To His wonderful kindness,
We must place our hope then
In His supreme goodness.

7. Put complete hope
In His paternal love;
He wants us to expect from Him
Even temporal goods:
All the goods of nature
Which we use every day,
Clothing, nourishment
And all other help.

8. Above all, try to understand This great secret of the Savior That He came to teach us (What a remarkable favor!): Hope in God so faithful, Rest at peace in the bosom Of His paternal love, With no worry for the morrow.

9. Avoid being anxious:
Worrying like pagans
Primarily concerned
With loving and seeking earthly good.
Not having faith to trust,
They worry about the future;
Tomorrow, what will we have to drink,
To eat, what will we wear?

10. Please, do not be concerned For your body,
Since your soul is worth far more Than your body and your wealth.
I have filled your soul
With my infinite treasures,
How can I forget
Its food or clothing?

11. Consider, if you will,
The millions of birds
Lacking for their sustenance
Both reserves and granary.
Your charitable Father
Makes sure they lack nothing;
And you, worth so much more,
Would lack what you need?

12. What! You think you can on your own, Grow in good and in virtue
You, who can not add
A hairsbreadth to your height?
I do everything with no one noticing,
Your efforts are too human,
All depends on my power,
I hold all things in my hands.

13. Consider the splendor
Of the flowers, the lilies of the field,
Solomon in all his glory
Was not arrayed as one of these.
If the fields are so clothed
Without working or spinning,
You who are worth so much more,
Must I not also clothe?



14. Do you desire abundance,
The increase of temporal good?
First, and before all else,
Seek eternal good,
The Lord and His justice,
His kingdom and His love;
Earn by this sacrifice
Your daily bread.

15. Begin first by believing,
Putting your trust in God,
Seeking only His glory,
Loving Him alone.
Then He will see to your affairs
And He Himself will give you
All that is necessary
And all that will please.

16. How many are miserable Because they think otherwise! How many wretched guilty Who are justly chastised! They think only of the earth But God curses all their work; Their sins attack Him, God engulfs them with woes.



17. Follow the adorable example
Of heartfelt abandonment,
That the Savior gave us
With His admirable Mother.
Imitate the holy apostles,
Those models of virtue,
And the example of so many others
Without goods or revenue.

18. It is on holy Providence
That the saints cast their cares
And God by His almighty power
Supplied all their needs.
Living from day to day,
Like courageous soldiers,
They received their crowns
At the end of their struggles.

19. They nursed at the breast
Of this loving mother,
The milk for faithful souls,
And their daily bread;
They easily obtained
Their food and clothing
And the sovereign sweetness
Of perfect detachment.

20. Man is a fragile reed
Which of itself bends over,
Man is a clay vessel
Which does not endure;
Cursed are those who trust in man,
The Holy Spirit tells us,
But blessed those who depend
On God alone through Jesus Christ!

21. The trust you have placed In God, must be united With prudence, According to time and place. Although God fulfills a task And we do hardly anything, It is still necessary for us to work, And even most diligently.

22. In God our Father,
Infinitely generous,
We place our total trust
For every good in general,
For grace and light,
Interiorly and exteriorly
And for all that we need
Both for soul and body.

23. Be calm and at peace
When your plans are upset
For anxiety is most harmful,
God alone suffices.
Love only God who loves you
And never abandons you;
Cast yourself entirely on
Him Without anxiety or fuss.

24. Humble yourself constantly Under the hand of the Almighty, Be thankful for His tenderness And His compassionate heart. Filled then with gratitude, Peace and humility, You will praise His Providence In spirit and truth.

25. So, my soul, let's be wise, Flee this deceiving world; It has only its own advantage And its own interest at heart. No one is concerned For the interests of God. Alas! we forget Him everywhere Or so seldom keep Him in mind.

26. Concern for land
And cupidity
Kindle wars everywhere
And cause all iniquity.
How fatal this vengeance!
For it hardens the heart,
It makes the soul dishonest,
Plunging it into evil.



27. This diabolical concern,
Widespread everywhere,
Infects even clerics
And often leaves them crushed.
It hides within a thousand thorns
By which hearts are flayed,
And also the accursed roots
Of the greatest sins.

28. Why is the liturgy and other tasks So shoddily fulfilled?
Why so many benefices
So poorly served?
Alas! a mercenary
Forced the lock by golden key,
So he can live high
And make a fortune for himself.

29. This church needs a roof, The altars are stripped, The walls are crumbling, The vestments are tattered, Everything so poor and filthy It makes the heart wince; Then look at the chambers Of the rector or the lord!



30. What ignorance and malice Among the poor peasants, What sins of injustice Among the small and the great. Good God! What diligence To seek temporal goods, While people show only lethargy For their eternal salvation!

31. How do these disorders begin?
(Pastors, allow me to comment,
Even though you didn't ask)
Money leads you, pushes you
Only for your own interest.
Without such selfishness, you would be strong,
But it now drags you everywhere
And may well land you in hell's bottom.

32. Friends of God, without delay
Let's plunge deeply into self-abandon,
So you will not be entrapped
By these snares of the devil;
We must empty ourselves of malice
To receive the Holy Spirit,
The kingdom and the justice,
Jesus Christ proclaimed.

33. We must rid ourselves of selfish interest, Then grace will surely follow; We must put aside all creatures, Then the Lord will come near; We must never seek our glory Or our own ambitious grandeur. We must seek but the glory And the victory of our God.

34. Flee the ordinary custom
Of temporal revenue;
The joy of full surrender
Must be our only wealth,
Let's despise the stupid nonsense
Motivating all the fools,
Let's renounce the illusions
Which dupe so many hearts.

35. Never put your human hope
In friends or in relatives,
Never place your worldly hope
In the powerful or famous.
God alone, God alone and His grace
And the work of salvation!
No matter what they say or do,
This must be our only aim.

36. Providence, I cast myself
On your most loving breast.
Let the world reject me,
All the happier will I be;
The more the world abandons me,
The more I hope for blessings,
And when I will have no one,
You will be my sole support.

37. Deceiving creatures,
Withdraw far from me;
Your flattering promises
Have ruled me for too long.
The Lord is my good Father,
Jesus is my dear Savior,
Mary is my good Mother,
Could I have greater joy?

38. The Lord is my only resource,
My wealth, and my income;
Spending His treasure,
I am sustained,
Like a bird on a branch
Without thought of the morrow;
Whether the economy is good or bad
I have daily bread.

39. I have everything in abundance And more than a king.
The world is in my power
Since its Master is within me.
Rich people will protest,
They must be my landholders
So I can take what I need
From their heap of coins.

40. Clerics and lay people,
You despise my way of life,
And I detest your practices
Leading you to death.
Oh! if you could understand
All my joy and all your woe,
On the spot you would free your hearts
From all of your possessions.

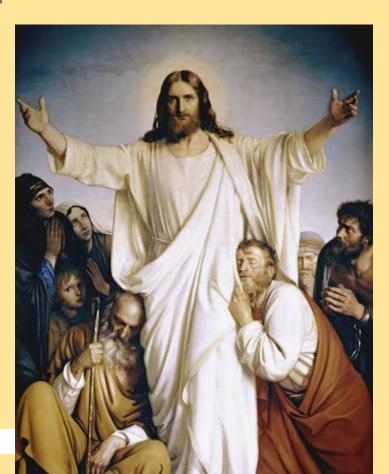
41. O secret of Providence,
O holy abandonment to God!
You are considered imprudent,
And are so little known.
Ah! for many years
I wander the earth seeking
Souls fully abandoned
And I find almost none.

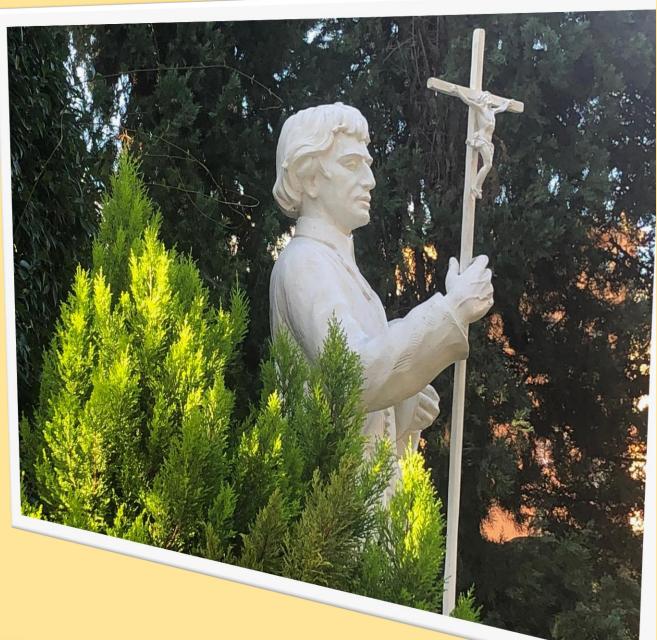
«Hope in God so faithful, Rest at peace in the bosom Of His paternal love, With no worry for the morrow.» (H 28,8) 42. Priests, we must follow
A poor crucified God,
Since He invites us;
We must listen to his voice
And think only of His interest.
Let us march under his banner
As the voluntary poor;
Behold the better part.

43. My soul, lose yourself in God,
Totally and for ever.
Expect all your help from God alone
Even though you will be censured;
Do not be fond of the world;
Fly then, free as a bird,
In supreme peace,
Poor even to the grave.

44. How we would perform marvels
If we were detached from the world!
We would then destroy sin
Almost without work or vigils.
We would then be apostles
And remarkable men,
Worthy to teach others
And lead them to heaven.

#### GOD ALONE.







Good pilgrimage with the Incarnate Word, Emmanuel, across the borders of time, as a witness to the Good News in today's world.

#### **MONTFORT MISSIONARIES**

Tel (+39) 06-30.50.203 ; Fax (+39) 06 30.11.908 ; Viale dei Monfortani, 65, 00135, Rome – ITALY E-mail: <u>rcordium@gmail.com</u> ; http://www.montfortian.info/amqah/