

"Apostles of peace with Mary in the latter times"

SAN GIOVANNI ROTONDO, Italy - From April 5 to 7, 2024, the Association of Mary Queen of All Hearts, Regional Center of Trinitapoli, Italy, organized its 15th edition of the Montfortian Marian Conference in San Giovanni Rotondo, a municipality located in the province of Foggia in the Puglia Region. The city linked to Saint Padre Pio of Pietrelcina welcomed around two hundred Montfort Associates from different regions of Italy.

During the Eucharistic celebration opening the conference, some priests and seminarians made the consecration to Jesus through Mary after participating in a preparatory retreat preached by Father Giovanni Maria PERSONENI, director of the Association's Trinitapoli Regional Center. During the conference, the books written by Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort were made available to participants who wished to possess or consult them, and information was provided on the possible involvement of the Associates in the various Montfortian missions.

The theme of these days marked by conferences, testimonies, various prayers and celebrations in a family and joyful atmosphere is "Apostles of peace with Mary in the latter times". Various competent speakers were present who dealt with this very topical subject through different sub-themes such as: the existential spaces of life and the world today where peace is in danger and under attack; origin of impiety and discord in the biblical stories, the roots of peace; Saint Louis-Marie de Montfort, apostle of peace and

reconciliation for his time; true devotion to Mary, a secret to forming peace builders today. The testimonies presented were also very real and showed how important it is to nurture the gift of peace in the heart and in the family.

The consecration taught by Louis-Marie is experienced as a preparation for the coming of Jesus Christ, not only for His final coming, but also for His coming in the Holy Spirit at every moment of our lives. The reign of Jesus Christ is in our hearts. There, the Holy Spirit works to give us various gifts, fruits, charisms and to become living members of the community of believers.

Peace is the fruit of the Holy Spirit, a gift that is received by those who walk and live in the Spirit. Mary, docile to the Holy Spirit, participates in the primordial role of the Holy Spirit in forming all baptized people to become saints and witnesses to the joy of the Gospel. Mary is the queen of our hearts, as a peacemaker. Thus, the members of this Association will be bearers of the peace which comes from the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Valuing consecration will help us "kindle the fires of divine love everywhere" (TD 56).

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