In addition to the necessity to join in the war against evil, Catholics who become members of the M.I. consecrate themselves to the Immaculata. Total Consecration does not oblige us to leave the world to enter a cloister; the M.I. movement is designed for everyone in their respective vocations.

Saint Maximilian Kolbe described this Total Consecration to the Immaculata in the M.I. most beautifully: ‘The essence of M.I. consists of belonging to the Immaculata unconditionally, irrevocably, unreservedly and entirely. That is why anyone who joins the M.I. becomes entirely her property. And in precisely this way he belongs to Jesus, just as she belongs to Jesus; and the more he is her property, the more he belongs to Jesus.’ In other words, this Total Consecration allows us to become more Mary-like, and consequently, Christ-like.

Total Consecration to the Immaculata must be voluntary. This means that we have to actively make the decision to consecrate ourselves to her, thereby permitting her to enter our lives to transform us spiritually into her instruments. It is only through this self-offering that we can become Knights of the Immaculata.

Desiring to be entirely faithful to the spirit of Saint Maximilian Kolbe, the M.I. of the Traditional Observance was first established in Warsaw, Poland, in 2000. It embraces the authentic heritage and teachings of its holy founder and proclaims fidelity to the pure, unchanging Catholic faith. Since then, the organisation has spread quickly throughout the world. Its members strive to live by the maxims of the holy founder, to have a true devotion to the Immaculata, and to win souls for her.

To find out more about the M.I. of the Traditional Observance, please visit:

- www.militia-immaculatae.asia
- info@militia-immaculatae.asia
- www.facebook.com/traditional.mi
- https://twitter.com/MI_Traditional

O Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee, and for all those who do not have recourse to thee, especially the Freemasons and for all those who are commended to thee!

(Ejaculatory Prayer of the M.I.)
**Militia Immaculatæ of the Traditional Observance**

**Movement for the Masses**

The Militia Immaculatæ, or the M.I. for short, is a Catholic organisation and movement for the masses — whether they be men or women; young or old; clergy, religious, or laity — and is purposed to save souls from Satan and his snares. ‘The object of the M.I.,’ explained the Polish Franciscan friar-saint Maximilian Maria Kolbe, the holy founder of the M.I., ‘is to strive for the conversion of sinners, heretics, schismatics, etc., and especially of Freemasons, as well as for the sanctification of all, under the protection and through the intercession of the Immaculate Virgin.’

**The Immaculata**

The Immaculata is none other than the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of our Lord Jesus Christ. She is called the Immaculata because she is entirely pure; she was conceived and born without the stain of Original Sin. At the Annunciation, the Blessed Virgin Mary humbly agreed to be the Mother of God. It is through her that God unfolded the plan of salvation for mankind; it is only with the help of the Blessed Virgin Mary that we are able to reach our Lord Jesus Christ — ad Jesum per Mariam. God, in His infinite goodness, has chosen the Immaculata to be the treasurer and dispenser of all His graces.

**Call of the Immaculata**

It is certainly by Divine Providence that the M.I. was formed in 1917. 1917 was the year in which the Blessed Virgin Mary appeared at Cova da Iria in Fátima, a small town in Portugal, to three shepherd children. She called the modern times the ‘decisive battle’ against the Devil and foretold the ‘diabolical disorientation invading the world and misleading souls’. Being the loving Mother that she is, Our Lady of Fátima did not leave the world without any remedy to these terrible times; in fact, she offered her very own heart as ‘[our] refuge and the way that will lead [us] to God’. Without the powerful means of a true devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary and her Immaculate Heart, humanity would be completely powerless against the ‘diabolical wave sweeping through the world’.

This call of the Immaculata was repeated in her various apparitions, including those in Paris (1830) and La Salette (1846). The same has also been propagated by saints throughout the ages, such as Saint Louis-Marie Grignion de Montfort and Padre Pio of Pietrelcina. It was precisely this divine call to action that roused the young Saint Maximilian Kolbe to establish the M.I.

**Saint Maximilian Kolbe’s Teachings**

Recognising the urgent need to save souls, Saint Maximilian Kolbe spearheaded the M.I. movement to take on a more active role in the fight against the enemies of God and the Catholic Church. He understood God’s promise that someone would crush the proud head of Satan (Genesis 3:15). The same person — a woman — has been given by God the power to overcome all heresies throughout the world. The Immaculata has been appointed to lead in this war against Hell, and God guaranteed a certain victory. To be her servants, we must also enlist in her army to fight with her; in other words, we must become knights, advancing towards the enemies’ camp under the banner of the Immaculata. It was for this reason that Saint Maximilian Kolbe named the organisation a militia, an army or a knighthood. This spirit of missionary zeal and desire to fight for a divine cause has attracted millions of people to join the ranks of the M.I., first in Poland, and then around the world.

**Relevance of the M.I. today**

Just as Saint Maximilian Kolbe and his confreres fought valiantly against the evils of the world a century ago, Catholics today should also be filled with the same fighting spirit. Erroneous doctrines, normalisation of sin and religious apathy promulgated by the modern world through liberal education and mass media are undoubtedly deadly poisons for souls, particularly those of innocent children. They confuse human reason and cut people off from the source of grace. A weakened soul is a prime target of the Devil, who leads him steadily down the path of eternal damnation.

The M.I. is certainly relevant — nay, necessary — in our present world. The time has come for us to respond to the call of the Immaculata, to pick up our spiritual arms to join her in this warfare against the Devil.