

## ***Writings of the Saints on their words on the Blessed Virgin Mary***

**St. Alphonsus Liguori** – “Mary having co-operated in our redemption with so much glory to God and so much love for us, Our Lord ordained that no one shall obtain salvation except through her intercession.”

**St. Alphonsus Liguori** - “Such is the will of God that we should have everything through Mary.”

**Saint Maximilian Kolbe** – “Never be afraid of loving the Blessed Virgin too much. You can never love her more than Jesus did.” “The Mother of God cannot lead us anywhere except to the Lord Jesus.” “Jesus was the first to honor her as His very Mother and we must imitate Him also in this. We will never, as much as we try, love Her with a love equal to that which Jesus loves her.”

**Saint Therese of Lisieux** was asked to write an autobiography by her superior and her response was to kneel before the statue of the Blessed Virgin and ask for her guidance and assistance in writing the now famous work on her life.

**Saint Thomas Aquinas** - "O most blessed and sweet Virgin Mary, Mother of God, filled with all tenderness, Daughter of the most high King, Lady of the Angels, Mother of all the faithful, On this day and all the days of my life, I entrust to your merciful heart my body and my soul, all my acts, thoughts, choices, desires, words, deeds, my entire life and death."

**Saint John Paul II** called his own 33 Day Consecration to Mary the “major turning point” of his life. His papal motto was “Totus Tuus” or “Totally Yours,” referring to being Totally for Mary. When John Paul II was younger, he worried that devotion to Mary might draw him away from Christ. It was his reading of Saint Louis de Montfort and Montfort’s book True Devotion to Mary and his 33 Day Consecration that showed John Paul that devotion to Mary is always an expression of love for Christ her Son. We love Mary because of Christ—not instead of Christ.

**St. John Paul II** - “Through Mary, we come to her Son more easily. Mary is the sure path to our meeting with Christ. Devotion to the Mother of the Lord, when it is genuine, is always an impetus to a life guided by the spirit and values of the Gospel.”

**Saint Louis de Montfort** – excerpt from a prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary, “If thou still seest in me anything which does not belong to thee, I beseech thee to take it and to make thyself the absolute Mistress of all that is mine. Destroy in me all that may be displeasing to God, root it up and bring it to nought; place and cultivate in me everything that is pleasing to thee.”

**Saint Louis de Montfort** - "When the Holy Spirit finds Mary in a soul, He enters that soul completely and communicates Himself completely to that soul."

**St. John Eudes** – "Do you forget that not only does Jesus reside and dwell perpetually in Mary's heart, but that He is in truth the heart of her heart and the soul of her soul; and that therefore coming to the heart of Mary means to honor Jesus and to invoke her heart is to invoke Jesus." St. John Eudes shared with St. Mary Margaret Alacoque the honor of initiating devotion to the Sacred Heart of Jesus and composed the mass for the Sacred Heart in 1668) and the Holy Heart of Mary, popularizing the devotions with his "The Devotion to the Adorable Heart of Jesus" (1670) and "The Admirable Heart of the Most Holy Mother of God", which he finished a month before his death at Caen on August 19<sup>th</sup>.

**St. Faustina** ~ "To give worthy praise to the Lord's mercy, we unite ourselves with Your Immaculate Mother, for then our hymn will be more pleasing to You, because She is chosen from among men and angels. Through Her, as through a pure crystal, Your mercy was passed on to us. Through Her, man became pleasing to God; Through Her, streams of grace flowed down upon us." (1746)

**Saint Francis de Sales**~ "Let us run to Mary, and, as her little children, cast ourselves into her arms with a perfect confidence."

**St. Bernard Clairvaux** – "Let us not imagine that we obscure the glory of the Son by the great praise we lavish on the Mother; for the more she is honored, the greater is the glory of her Son."

**St. Teresa of Calcutta** was known to pray an "express novena" which was 9 Memorare's in a row. She was all about showing love to her Mother in Heaven in the tiniest of ways.

**Blessed Fulton Sheen** - From his book, "**The World's First Love**" "There is, actually, only one person in all humanity of whom God has one picture and in whom there is a perfect conformity between what He wanted her to be and what she is, and that is His Own Mother. Most of us are a minus sign, in the sense that we do not fulfill the high hopes the Heavenly Father has for us.

***But Mary is the equal sign. The Ideal that God had of her, that she is, and in the flesh. The model and the copy are perfect; she is all that was foreseen, planned, and dreamed. The melody of her life is played just as it was written. Mary was thought, conceived, and planned as the equal sign between ideal and history, thought and reality, hope and realization.***

**Saint Bonaventure** - "Mary seeks for those who approach her devoutly and with reverence, for such she loves, nourishes, and adopts as her children."