



14 August 2014

The Immaculata: Woman of the Eucharist

“In the Eucharistic celebration we always receive, with the memorial of the death of Christ, also Mary’s gift, given from the Crucified one in the person of John: **‘Behold your Mother!’** Living in the Eucharist, the memorial of the death of Christ, means to also continuously receive this gift. It means taking with us, on the example of John, She who every time is given us as Mother. At the same time it means to conform ourselves to Christ, placing ourselves in the school of the Mother, in each of our Eucharistic celebrations.”¹

The relationship between the Eucharist and the Mother of the Lord was understood and contemplated by **Father Kolbe**. He is fully convinced that Mary guides the faithful to the Eucharist, because “The Immaculata, having arrived at the highest level of union with Christ, can well be an expert guide, on the most arduous climb of divine love, wonderfully teaching us receive and enjoy the Eucharistic Jesus. It becomes almost a necessity fully entrust ourselves to Her in order that the Eucharist be the center of our interior life and way to sanctity.”²

In Mary union with Christ reaches the highest level and for this Father Kolbe asks his confrariars to let themselves be always penetrated by the thoughts, intentions and the love that the Immaculata had for Jesus in the Eucharist. He wrote: “She will teach you to return to Jesus a love without measure, for the love that he showed on the cross and in the Most Blessed Sacrament of the altar.”³

“There isn’t a better preparation for Holy Communion than to offer all of it to the Immaculata. She will prepare our heart in the best manner possible to give Jesus the greatest joy, to show him the greatest love.”⁴ “And after Communion we will again pray the Immaculata so that she may want to keep Jesus company present in our soul and make him so happy as no one has been able...she transforms it in a dwelling place worthy of Jesus to welcome him only as She knows how...we can then be certain to do up to now.”

Completely entrusted to the Mother, Father Kolbe lets himself be ever more penetrated by the great mystery that is the Eucharist that is truly “the Incarnate and hidden God under the appearances of bread.”⁵ Once, in Niepokalanow, a friar fell ill and everything was lacking in the convent, even money to take care of him. Then Father Maximilian called Fr. Giorgio Dudek, who was a nurse as well as sacristan, asking him how many chalices they had and hearing “two”, he said: “Take one, sell it in Warsaw and buy all that is necessary for the patient.” When he saw Fr. Giorgio Dudek perplexed and awed, he added: “To save the living temple, in which Jesus receives cordial welcome every day, we can sell a holy vessel.”

Angela
for the community

¹John Paul II, *Ecclesia de Eucharistia*, 57.

²Ref. SK 757.

³SK 715.

⁴SK 643.

⁵SK 988A.