

Official Handbook

Of The

*Purity Crusade of
Mary Immaculate*



"Certain Fashions will be introduced that will offend Our Lord very much." Our Lady of Fatima, 1917.

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F O R E W O R D

Christian modesty is the forgotten virtue today. Yet, it is indispensable for the protection of chastity. It is useless to try to restore chastity to the individual, the family, and society, as long as its safeguard, modesty, is either ignored or violated on such a large scale as it is today.

This is one reason why this first handbook of the Purity Crusade of Mary Immaculate deals almost exclusively with modesty, as a start on our organized campaign for Christian chastity. Another reason is because so little is written today on modesty, and most persons who do write on this subject only serve to confuse Catholic women more and more by their many sophisms, their compromise with worldly views on this frail virtue, or even their full acceptance of pagan principles.

Yet the last three Popes have, time and again, issued directives on Christian modesty and refutations of many of these modern errors.

Is this not the reason why Christ established in His Church the Supreme Teaching Authority? To protect the Church from errors, and to correct the clergy, the teachers and the parents who, intentionally or in good faith, would propagate errors?

Anyone who today dares to advocate traditional Christian modesty, is considered, even by a large number of Catholics, a scrupulous person, a disturber of conscience, or a crackpot. But did not Christ foretell that this is the price every one of His followers must pay who strives to be loyal to Him and His Church?

The Purity Crusade of Mary Immaculate holds up Mary as the perfect model for all Christians, and relies completely on what it believes to be the teaching of the Supreme Authority of the Church, the Pope, on modesty. Hence, its two-fold motto: "Whatever Mary Approves—Whatever the Church Approves."

REV. B. KUNKEL, Founder and Director,
The Marylike Crusade.

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OFFICIAL HANDBOOK OF THE PURITY CRUSADE OF MARY IMMACULATE — IN QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

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CHAPTER I.

THE PURITY CRUSADE OF MARY IMMACULATE

WHAT IS THE PURITY CRUSADE OF MARY IM- MACULATE?

The Purity Crusade of Mary Immaculate (PCMI) is
a movement to promote chastity and modesty through
the imitation of Mary, our Queen and "Mother Most
Chaste," as the perfect model of these virtues.

WHEN AND WHERE DID THE PCMI ORIGINATE?

It was initiated by Reverend Bernard A. Kunkel, pastor
of St. Cecilia's Parish in Bartelso, Illinois, on the feast
of the Immaculate Conception, December 8, 1944. It re-
ceived the warm approval of the late Most Reverend
Henry Althoff, Bishop of Belleville, Illinois, who also im-
parted to it His Episcopal Blessing.

Our Holy Father, Pope Pius XII, has on two different
occasions imparted His Apostolic Blessing to the Purity
Crusade of Mary Immaculate, on July 14, 1954, and on
May 11, 1955, "to the members, to their Directors and
Moderators, to their families and loved ones, and to all
who further their laudable movement for modesty in dress
and behavior."

ARE THE PCMI AND THE MARYLIKE CRUSADE IDENTICAL?

The PCMI is a part of the Marylike Crusade. The

adoption of the latter name indicates its broadened scope. Whilst continuing to emphasize, through the PCMI, the urgent need of striving after the forgotten virtues of chastity and modesty, the Marylike Crusade now embraces in its scope the imitation of Mary in all virtues. This handbook deals directly with the PCMI as a part of the Marylike Crusade.

DOES THE MARYLIKE CRUSADE HAVE ANY OFFICIAL STATUS IN THE CHURCH?

Yes. It received an official status in the Belleville Diocese at the time of its incorporation in September, 1955, under the State of Illinois, as a "religious non-profit corporation." It is so listed in the Catholic Directory.

The incorporators of the Marylike Crusade are: His Excellency, the Most Reverend Albert R. Zuroveste, Bishop of Belleville, as President; the Right Reverend Monsignor Leonard A. Bauer, S.T.D., Vicar General, as Vice President; and Reverend Bernard A. Kunkel, as Spiritual Director.

The headquarters of the Marylike Crusade are in Bartelso, Illinois, U.S.A. There are no branch offices, no representatives. All Crusade affairs are handled at: The Marylike Crusade, Bartelso, Illinois.

WHO CAN JOIN THE PCMI?

Any man, woman or child, who is desirous of furthering its aims and purposes, can and should join the PCMI.

WHAT IS REQUIRED FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE PCMI?

The PCMI is not a society with set dues and complicated rules, but rather a **movement**. Membership consists in furthering this movement in any of the following ways: by striving to carry out the principles, practices

and programs presented in this hand book; by interesting others in this movement; by subscribing to the official magazine, **The Marylike Crusader**; by offering financial help, much or little. (Donations are deductible for income tax purposes.)

IS THERE ANY SPECIAL REASON FOR EMPHASIZING PURITY AND MODESTY?

Yes, Pope Pius XII has asserted, "Mainly through sins of impurity do the forces of darkness subjugate souls." This same message was given by Our Lady of Fatima in similar words, "The sins that lead most souls to hell are the sins of the flesh."

Following a general breakdown of modesty, impurity has become the ruling passion of the world. It is like a spiritual cancer slowly eating away the spiritual life in souls. It has brought the world to the brink of another Sodom and Gomorrha, this time on a worldwide scale. We are facing the threat of "The greatest catastrophe since the deluge." (Pius XII.)

DOES NOT A PURITY CRUSADE SEEM HOPELESS IN THIS AGE?

This is what the devil would like to have us believe. By our silence we would be letting the entire field of morality in his foul hands. Pope Pius XII points out the seriousness of the general world situation as well as the remedy:

"The threat of this fearful crisis fills us with a great anguish, and so with confidence we have recourse to Mary Our Queen." (Oct. 11, 1954.)

So also the PCMI does not rely mainly on natural means, but "with confidence turns to Mary Immaculate. Under Her banner, Who foretold at Fatima, "In the end My Immaculate Heart will triumph," the PCMI is assured of ultimate victory. For, the restoration of purity