

Allocutio – July 12, 2011

*Mary Immaculate
(Handbook Chapter 5, #3, pgs 20-21)*



Fr. Richard Soulliere, Spiritual Director, Legion of Mary, Miami Regia

"We are told that we should aim with all our heart to become children of Mary" and that we should live our lives in union with Mary - but how can we do this if we do not know what Mary was like?" In answer, I offer you the following: **(1) and (2) are easily memorized.** Note that **(2) is in alphabetical order for easier memorization.** Once memorized, we can compare our actions to those of the Blessed Mother throughout our day. Try it, it's easy, and then, we can correct our faults and progress toward our union with Her. For example, the other day I was driving and a car swerved in front of mine, almost causing an accident. I immediately thought, "You stupid driver!" Then I compared my reaction to what Mary's might have been. Running (1) through my mind, I came to **"think ill of no one"** and I knew I was wrong. So I quickly said a Hail Mary for the driver and an **Act of Contrition** for myself. Hopefully, I'm getting closer to living my life in union with Mary!

(1) **Be "patient without envy, kind without offense, be without anger, pride and ambition, think ill of no one and suffer and tolerate all things."** From the **"Mystical City of God"** by **Venerable Mary Agreda**, in which the Blessed Mother reveals Her life to her.

(2) **(1) Angelic sweetness, (2) ardent charity, (3) blind obedience, (4) continual mental prayer, (5) divine purity, (6) divine wisdom, (7) heroic patience, (8) lively faith, (9) mortification in all things, and (10) profound humility** are the 10 principal virtues of the **Blessed Virgin Mary**, listed in the **"True Devotion to Mary"** by St. Louis Marie de Montfort.

(3) "In every action, **she evinced gravity, dignity and honor.** She spoke little and only when it was necessary. To others, she willingly listened. She was **gentle, humble and affable, rendering to everyone the respect they deserved.** She ignored laughter, trouble and anger; but she was horrified at wickedness. Her eyes were brilliant, but dimmed and hollowed from weeping. **Her hands were bloodless and transparent and all her features were sharpened by constant suffering.**" This is taken from the former "Official Handbook of the Legion of Mary" (1961), in the chapter entitled **"Portrait of Mary."**