St. Louis de Montfort – Total Consecration to Jesus through Mary

St. Joseph's will host another session of the "Total Consecration" class, beginning Monday October 28. We'll use books and video material provided by Father Hugh Gillespie of the Company of Mary which follow the 33 day method laid out by St. Louis de Montfort (d. 1713) in his great work *True Devotion*.

The class has five meetings 10/28, 11/4, 11/18, 11/25, 12/2. You can come either in the morning from 9:15-10:45, or in the evening from 6-7:30. The final blessing, given by either Father Tim or Father Paul, is scheduled for December 8, The Feast of Immaculate Conception.

**What is it?**

In the words of Fr. Gillespie: "Christian life fully and truly lived is nothing less than a radically powerful and intimate participation in the life of Jesus Christ himself. Father de Montfort insisted that full participation in the life of Jesus requires a relationship with Mary. Therefore, those who truly sought to grow into the full maturity of life in Jesus Christ could find no more sure or certain or reliable means of doing so than by surrendering themselves fully into the care of the great Mother of God in the same way that the Lord himself has done..."

**The schedule**

The 33 days is symbolic of the number of years our Lord lived on earth.

The first 12 days focus on renunciation of the world.

The next 7 days focus on knowledge of self.

The following 7 days focus on knowledge of Mary.

And the last 7 days focus on knowledge of Jesus Christ.

Each day contains 2-3 short prayers, a scripture passage, an excerpt from de Montfort's writings, and a question on which to meditate throughout the day. On meeting days, we'll watch a video explanation by Father Hugh. These talks are very penetrating and very good.

**Consecration Day**

After the 33 days, on a Marian feast day, you consecrate yourself totally to Jesus through Mary, encapsulated in the following: "All that I am and all that I have is yours, oh my dear Jesus, through Mary, your holy Mother." (Totus tuus ego sum et omnia mea tua sunt). This consecration grows and matures and takes shape throughout one's life.

**If you're on the fence**

Please come on October 28. This is not day one of the 33 days but an intro day that can help you decide whether or not you want to participate in this class. If you've already done it, consider doing it again.

Fr. de Montfort described this approach to Marian Consecration as "a secret" - it has a deeply penetrating spiritual quality that the saint seems to have received mystically - and it has received the ringing endorsements of St. Pius X and St. John Paul II, among many others.

Thank you for reading and hope to see you!, If you need more information, please contact Liz Fontaine at [lizannfontaine@gmail.com](mailto:lizannfontaine@gmail.com)

To Jesus through Mary,

Liz and Hank

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