



# The Silent Key

August 23, 2017

**Opening Prayer:** *Lord Jesus, as we reflect on the Silent Key and what it means to adore you properly, we offer up our whole selves as the only appropriate gift to you. Just as you gave your life for us, it seems fitting that our response to your unconditional love should be to allow you to have all of us as well. I ask all the saints in heaven, especially St. Maximilian Kolbe and St. John Paul the Great to pray for me, an unworthy servant of the Eucharist, that I may be able to endure the sacred tasks of this noble endeavor.*

*Holy Mary, I ask you the Immaculata to dissolve me completely into your womb so that these words may be yours entirely, in a way that my only contribution is perhaps the flavor by which these truths are received, similar to the salt in the ocean. Only, you exemplify what it means to be dissolved in the Ocean of Mercy Mary, and for that—your title as Queen of Heaven and Earth is most fitting. At last, I offer up this initial reflection for the intentions of the Holy Father Pope Francis and for the continued expansion of the Kingdom of Heaven, particularly through the teachings of the Theology of the Body.*

*We pray all of this to Jesus, through Mary. Amen.*

*“But how shall we know **the will of our Queen and Leader**? On this earth, there is only one safe way: holy Obedience to the representatives of God, whose will is all the Immaculata desires. Also, at times we may know her intentions even by means of inner inspirations, **but on our own we are hardly ever able to be sure** that they do indeed come from her and not from our self-love, or from Satan. Because with his angelic splendor, Satan can at times suggest even things that may be most holy in themselves, but are meant for another person, while God may not want those particular things from us. So, in that case too, **our surest proof is obedience, that is, confiding what we feel in our internal or external “forum” to our Superior and doing what he commands without question. If he forbids, but the Immaculata wants, then she will find a way to achieve her goal, as in the case of the Miraculous Medal.** Sometimes God allows such obstacles in order to enhance His own work. However, if the inspiration is not coming from her, may it quickly fall through! We thus come to know the bidding of our Queen not only through the orders of our Superiors, but also by means of a warrant to act upon our inner inspirations.”* - St. Maximilian Kolbe

What are our inner inspirations? Surely, as we go day to day we have different thoughts that enter our brain. Those thoughts come from our interests, our daily chores, responsibilities, etc. When we encounter something though that pierces our hearts with beauty, or in other words—that captures our imagination and gives us hope for something deeper. This is similar to enjoying a good movie, taking in the peace of a sunset, going for an exhilarating hike—all of these types of things can lead us more deeply into a relationship with Jesus Christ!

*But on our own we are hardly ever able to be sure*—indeed, St. Maximilian Kolbe knows well that we can't know what God wants for us based merely on our own desires! For we can quickly fall into the trap of selfishness and just doing whatever feels good in the moment. Rather, we need each other to help guide us on the spiritual journey, to ensure we find the ancient path of happiness and fulfillment. It's the kind of fulfillment that flows from a stable and confident lifestyle that stands strong in the face of emotional drama & division. It resists the tendency to fear commitment and consistency. Above all, this lifestyle virtuously wills the good of others unconditionally.

More reflections to come as the Silent Key continues!