



Series: **SAINTS**



Every day
with **Montfort**

Texts: **Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort**

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and Regional Centre of the «Association
of Mary Queen of All Hearts», Trinitapoli**

© Editrice Shalom – 24.05.2021 Blessed Virgin Mary
Mother of the Church

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Epitaph for the tomb of St. Louis Marie de Montfort

Traveller, what do you see?
A light quenched,
A man consumed
by the fire of Charity
Who became all things to all people
Louis-Marie Grignon de Montfort
If you ask what was his life:
There was none more holy;
His penance: none more austere;
His zeal: none more ardent;
His devotion to Mary:
none more like St. Bernard.
A priest of Christ, he showed forth
Christ in his action, and preached
Him everywhere in his words.
Indefatigable,
he rested only in the grave.
Father of the poor,
Protector of orphans,
Reconciler of sinners.
His glorious death
was the image of his life;
As he had lived, so he died.
Ripe for God, he passed to heaven
April 28th 1716
Aged 43 years.



Portrait of Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort (XVII century). Saint Laurent-sur-Sèvre, France.

Preface

Louis Marie Grignion de Montfort Spiritual Master and Renowned Theologian

We express our deepest gratitude to Fr. Giovanni M Personeni, SMM and Mariane Magalhães de Souza of the Regional Center of the «Association of Mary Queen of All Hearts», Trinitapoli, Italy, from whom we received the Italian text of this book which has been published by Editrice Shalom under the title «Un pensiero al giorno con Montfort» (Thoughts of Montfort for Every Day of the Year). Thanks also to Fr. David M Cletus, SMM who inserted the English text of this book using a translation of Montfort's writings published by Montfort Publications, Bay Shore, New York. A big thanks goes to Fr. Alexander Swamy Nathan, SMM who has read the draft of this book from page to page and provided missing information and made necessary corrections.

It is obvious that this book provides a teaching of Father De Montfort for each day of the year. These thought sparks are like gentle but persistent droplets of divine life dew, which can be immensely powerful to shape and transform the reader's life. These quotations are certainly not the most beautiful statements in Montfort's writings, but every little thought provided each day is considered sufficient for a soul who, although

very busy in the midst of various family and work affairs, wants to quench a little of her or his thirst for a deeper inner life.

Since Montfort's affirmations are drawn from his various writings, there is one thing which is missing here, namely the context in which these quotations are taken from. So, a reader will not always know how Montfort's thinking is, before and after the passage is being read. These quotations could be then considered as a bait which should encourage the reader to verify directly in the writing referred to. Of course, this will be experienced and done by people who want to know more and have the complete writings of Montfort.

Anyone who wants to discover Montfort and his spiritual and missionary teachings can find on the pages of this book a stream of fresh water that is able to quench his or her thirst for a more authentic Christian life, for Montfort is one of the «witnesses and teachers» of a true Christian Spirituality in the Church of today (*Redemptoris Mater*, 48).

The purpose of this short, continuous reading day after day is that at the end of the year, thanks to obedience to the gentle guidance of the Holy Spirit, there will be an experience of self-transformation in Christ. A light, though small, can cast out the darkness. A lamp can shine but it depends on the quality of its connection with the source from which it receives its power! It is the Holy Spirit

who will do this miraculous work to transform us into little lights in the places where we live and work. Doesn't Montfort proclaim: «The Holy Spirit himself will lead this faithful soul from strength to strength, from grace to grace, from light to light, until at length he attains transformation into Jesus in the fullness of his age on earth and of his glory in heaven» (TD 119)? Happy reading!

Arnold SUHARDI SMM
Centre International Montfortain

Chronology of Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort

- **January 31, 1673:** Louis Marie Grignon is born in Montfort-sur-Meu, near Rennes, in Brittany. On 1 February he receives baptism in the parish church of Saint John.
- **1675-1684:** he spends his childhood in the countryside near Iffendic; he does schooling in the parish school of Montfort-sur-Meu.
- **1684-1692:** student of the Jesuit college in Rennes, staying with his uncle Alain, a priest.
- **1692:** he goes to Paris to complete his studies in preparation for the priesthood. First he is welcomed into two communities of poor seminarians, then he moves on to the Saint-Sulpice seminary.
- **June 5, 1700:** on completing his formation, he is ordained a priest in Paris.
- **1700-1701:** he goes to Nantes, where he becomes part of a community of priests. He preaches the first missions to the people.
- **1701-1705:** he is in Poitiers, where he works as rector of the general hospital and carries out mis-

sionary activities in the city and in the diocese. He meets Marie Louise Trichet, who will be the first Daughter of Wisdom. He undertakes several trips to Paris, where he remains for a few months (1703-1704).

- **1706:** he goes to Rome on pilgrimage to meet Pope Clement IX. He visits also Loreto.
- **1706-1710:** he is a missionary in the Breton region. He resides in Saint-Lazare hermitage, near Montfort-sur-Meu, between one apostolic commitment and another. He collaborates with other groups of missionaries. Then he himself directs missions in the diocese of Nantes. He constructs the big Calvary of Pontchâteau, which is then destroyed by the authorities.
- **1711:** he passes through the Vendée, in the dioceses of Luçon and La Rochelle, preaching missions.
- **1713:** he travels to Paris, to the seminary of the Holy Spirit, where he asks for collaborators.
- **1714:** he goes to his friend, Blain, in Rouen, Normandy.
- **1715:** in La Rochelle he meets Adrien Vatel, a priest who agrees to follow him.

- **1716:** his last missions in Vendée. On April 28 he dies in Saint-Laurent-sur-Sèvre.
- **1888:** beatification of Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort on 20 January by Pope Leo XIII.
- **1947:** on 20 July, he is proclaimed a saint by Pope Pius XII.
- **1996:** Saint Louis Marie Grignon de Montfort is added in the universal calendar of the Church.

January ■



Mary is his most worthy Mother of the divine Wisdom because she conceived him and brought him forth as the fruit of her womb. “Blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus” (Lk. 1:42).

Hence it is true to say that Jesus is the fruit and product of Mary wherever he is present, be it in heaven, on earth, in our tabernacles or in our hearts. She alone is the tree of life and Jesus alone is the fruit of that tree.

Therefore, anyone who wishes to possess this wonderful fruit in his heart must first possess the tree that produces it; whoever wishes to possess Jesus must possess Mary.

Happy are those who have won Mary’s favours! They can rest assured that they will soon possess divine Wisdom, for as she loves those who love her (cf. Prov. 8:17), she generously shares her blessings with them, including that infinite treasure which contains every good, Jesus, the fruit of her womb.

(Love of Eternal Wisdom, 204.206)