

## The Letter to the Friends of the Cross - St. Louis de Montfort

Consecration Group Book Club: [www.consecrationgroup.org](http://www.consecrationgroup.org) *Our Lady of Peace Church & Shrine*

Talks and Facilitation: Fr. Brian Dinkel  
Meeting Days: 3 Sundays – Feb. 11, Feb. 18, Feb 25 from 3pm-5pm  
Place: Family Learning Center - Gym

### Instructions:

Feb. 11 Read numbers 1-26  
Feb. 18 Read numbers 27-53  
Feb. 25 Read numbers 54 – 62 , plus the Triumph of the Cross

### FOR DISCUSSION GROUPS:

#### Feb. 25: Numbers 54-62, plus the Triumph of the Cross

**“Be ready to be persecuted, envied, betrayed, calumniated, discredited forsaken by everyone. Be ready to undergo hunger, thirst, poverty, nakedness, exile, imprisonment, the gallows and all kinds of torture, even though you are innocent of everything with which you may be charged. Firmly believe that this is the summit of divine glory and real happiness for a true, perfect friend of the cross.”**

- Describe an experience of persecution although you were innocent. How did you carry that cross then? How will you carry it now?

#### 4 Things to Consider for Proper Suffering:

1. Eye of God
  - a. What does God look upon with pleasure and delight?
2. Hand of God – “The person who injures me by word or deed is an ambassador, mercifully sent by God to punish me as His love alone knows how.”
  - a. Why must I not take revenge on one who injures me?
  - b. How does God humble you and then raise you up?
3. Consider the wound and Sorrow of our crucified Jesus – “We should keep our eyes on Jesus crucified and arm ourselves with this thought of Him which is our most powerful and most penetrating weapon against all our enemies.”
  - a. Describe a time in your life when focusing on Jesus helped you carry your cross.
4. Lift up your eyes, behold the beautiful crown that awaits you in heaven if you carry your cross as you should. Fight courageously, suffer patiently, and you will be given an everlasting kingdom.
  - a. How has this book changed your outlook on suffering?

**“Never murmur or deliberately complain about any created thing that God may use to affect you.**

- Cite examples when you complained about the person afflicting you. Could you have handled it better?
- What is a sinful complaint?

**“Embrace your cross with humility and gratitude.”**

- What advise can you give on how to do this?

**Give some examples of voluntary crosses.**

**Share some reflections on “The Triumph of the Cross.”**