

## 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. 18: Part 1 – Numbers 27-53

**“How many would-be Christians there are who imagine they are members of the savior when in reality they are his most insidious persecutors, for while blessing themselves with the sign of the cross, they crucify Him in their hearts.”**

- How do you think people crucify Jesus with their hearts?
- If Jesus gives you a choice between a crown of thorns and a crown of roses which would you choose?

#### **Jesus likens the cross to a fire whose intense heat burns rust off iron**

- How have you seen the hand of God in times of persecution?
- Describe the times when you didn't trust God that he will make things right but later saw you were wrong?

#### **In the processing, the precious metal must be tried by fire while the baser constituents go up in smoke and flame**

- What virtues have you acquired after much suffering? Provide some examples.
- Describe people from the Bible who endured great suffering (Abel, Abraham, Lot, Jacob, Tobias, Job, Apostles, Martyrs, Virgins, Saints, Mary) How did they serve as witnesses to Christ?

#### **The cross affords all kinds of joy to anyone without exception who suffer cheerfully for God**

- Have you complained in your suffering?
- What tools have you used in order to suffer cheerfully?

#### **Every time they provide us with crosses by mocking and persecuting us, they are simply offering us jewels, setting us upon a throne and crowning us with laurels**

- Describe a persecution you've endured from someone?
- Say a prayer for that person who persecutes you and end it with a thanksgiving to God.

#### **14 Rules to Follow in Carrying One's Cross:**

For discussion: Describe the first 10 rules.