

Book List for 33 Days of Preparation for Total Consecration

I recommend using Fr. Hugh Gillespie's book and Fr. Michael Gaitley's book together. I have listed other options in case you want to try something different. There are many more options available if you just do a search on "Total Consecration."

1) "True Devotion to Mary" by TAN Publishers. This is the book we are reading. All of the prayers that you need are in the back of the book, beginning on page 147. St. LdM suggests that we read daily from Scripture and Thomas Kempis' spiritual classic, Imitation of Christ. The older versions of the book list the title of the readings /chapters only, but this newest version of the TDM book actually has them printed out. However, for some reason, they used a very old version of Scripture and Imitation of Christ and some have found it difficult to follow. For years, I just used the prayers in the back of the TDM book, my Bible and my copy of Imitation of Christ. The 33 days are not divided up for you, so you decide how much to read each day.

2) Fr. Hugh Gillespie's book, "Preparation for Total Consecration," published by the Montfort Fathers. It was formerly the "little brown book" (which is no longer in print), but was updated a few years ago by Fr. Hugh Gillespie, SMM. Fr. Hugh said that he updated it to better capture the spirit of St. Louis de Montfort. It is not as "dry" as the little brown booklet because he adds lots of insights and daily reflections/suggestions, but the prayers and suggested readings are slightly different from the little brown book/TDM book. The nice thing about this book is that he divides the 33 days of meditations up for you, so it's easy to follow.

3) Fr. Michael Gaitley's book, "33 Days to Morning Glory." This is a wonderful book and includes the Marian spirituality of St. Louis de Montfort, St. Maximilian Kolbe, Blessed Mother Teresa and St. John Paul II. However, it doesn't follow St. Louis de Montfort's "method" at all (see #227 - #230 in TDM book), so I would use this as supplemental reading only in conjunction with one of the other options.

4) Catholic Familyland's book, "Preparation for Total Consecration for Families." This is a wonderful book that includes some of St. John Paul

II's encyclicals and many other prayers and devotions. They do divide the readings and prayers into 33 days (actually 40 days, they include the week after consecration). This book is good if you have a lot of time. Otherwise, it can be overwhelming, which Mother doesn't want for you :-).

5) Free book from www.myconsecration.org - they will send a free copy of a small book to use for the 33 days. They used to send the little brown book, but have an updated version, as well. It offers nice reflections for each of the 33 days.

6) Free app called "My Consecration" - this appears to be the same prayers and meditations as the (out of print) little brown book. These are mainly the prayers and meditations suggested in the back on the TDM book.