MAXIM CARDS

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| **Maxim 1**  Dude! Stay focused  on what’s important  in life. Don’t let the  crazy stuff distract  you.  Keep always in mind the aim of your vocation which is sublime; and never do anything which contradicts the commitment to a life full of modesty, gentleness, and holiness. |
| **Maxim 2**  You are made in  God’s image.  It’s a pretty spectacular heritage.  Live up to it!  Take it as a general rule for your inner being, for your virtues, and for your actions, that "you must be made perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect"; (Mt. 5:48) that is to say, embrace in all things what will bring about the greater glory of God, be more conformable to his holy will, and be more pleasing in his sight. |
| **Maxim 3**  Learn to see your ego  and how it operates and  then choose love.  Gentleness can rule the day!  Empty yourself continually in honor of the Incarnate Word who emptied himself with so much love for you. (Phil. 2:7) Make your commitment to live in the practice of the most sincere, true, and profound humility possible to you. Do so on all occasions, to everyone but especially to God, from whom must come all the blessings of your Institute. |
| **Maxim 4**  Keep your  relationships sacred!  It’s all that really matters, right?  Live, as much as you can, in such a way that your life, in honor of the Holy Spirit, may be a continual act of the most pure and perfect charity that you are able to practice toward God. |
| **Maxim 7**  Be courageous!  Don’t wimp out just  because it’s  impossible.  In the manifestation of zeal characteristic of your very humble vocation, imitate the fervor of the most zealous and embrace in desire the salvation and perfection of a whole world in a spirit replete with a true humility and a generous courage. This will bring you to wish to do everything, to suffer everything, and to undertake everything for the advancement of the glory of God and the salvation of the dear neighbor. |
| **Maxim 11**  Look for the good in  people. Even if  it’s hard.  It’s there somewhere.  Always speak favorably of others and value highly the good in them, excusing and covering up, in the best way you can, the deficiencies they might have. |
| **Maxim 12**  Adopt a positive  worldview.  It alleviates personal suffering.  Choose to bear all the evils of time rather than the least of eternity, all the evils of nature rather than the least deprivation of grace, since all kinds of reasons illumined by faith teach you to live according to this truth. |
| **Maxim 13**  Go out there and make  the creator of the  universe look amazing!  You can contribute something to 14 billion  years of evolution! |
| **Maxim 16**  Practice love  and gratitude.  Everywhere.  In everything and everywhere, have only God, God’s will and God’s glory before your eyes, and make not account of anything else. |
| **Maxim 17**  Abandon the desires  of the ego.  Be led…. by love  Desire little in this world, and what you do desire, desire that very little. And better yet, live without desire and with-out set plans. Abandon yourself, surrendering very gently, to the very loving Providence of God your Father, |

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| **Maxim 21**  Don’t worry about  getting credit for your  good work, just enjoy  the beauty of it  Desire neither praise nor reward for your good works in this life and you will have deeper and fuller life in eternity. |
| **Maxim 24**  Find God in all  things.  It’s like being a treasure hunter  Be utterly given to God by a holy self-surrender, utterly for God by a love pure and completely unselfish, utterly in God by a continuing effort to be more conscious of his presence, utterly according to God by a will, a life and everything conformed to him. |

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| **Maxim 26**  Keep heart, action  and desire in  alignment with  Love’s Design  Seek in everything God's contentment and not anything else, and the better to practice this, remember in the entire living out of your life, in desolation, in sickness, etc., to desire God’s greater contentment without giving a thought to your own interests. |
| **Maxim 28**  On occasion give yourself  a reality check--  “I am not the center of  the world.”  Be sad over the world’s notice of you or affection for you and be convinced that such notice and affection are wasted on anyone who so little merits it; and, on the contrary, desire only that the preoccupation and affection of people be, like that of the angels, of God alone and for God alone. |
| **Maxim 37**  Do the best you  can and then let  it go  Ask nothing and refuse nothing, unless you judge it absolutely necessary after having prayed to God. Even in that case let it be done as a simple proposal together with a complete resignation whether this proposal is accepted or not. |
| **Maxim 38**  Don’t complain about  anyone except  yourself.  Yes, really.  Never complain about anyone but yourself. |

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| **Maxim 39**  Be of service to the  world!  The best service is one that shares your  gifts and gives you life!  Be nothing to yourself and be utterly given  to God and to the neighbor. |
| **Maxim 41**  Be gentle with  yourself, the dear  neighbor and  creation.  We are all still evolving.  Tend solely and lovingly to resemble the dear Savior perfectly and in all things. Let him live in you and you live utterly in him. |
| **Maxim 49**  Act, if only in behavior  toward everyone, the  same way you would act  towards your beloved.  Just don’t be creepy with anyone  Whenever there is no danger that God will be offended or less honored, manifest all the compliance possible towards the neighbor. Whatever difficulty you may experience in that, do not let it appear, showing a joyful countenance full of gentleness, as if you found great happiness in what is painful to you. Whatever you do for the dear neighbor, do it with the same feeling of devotion and of charity as if you were doing it for the very person of Jesus Christ. |
| Maxim 52  Interpret all things from  the best possible point of view.  The universe will return the favor  Interpret all things from  the best possible point of view. |
| Maxim 64  Make a practice of  being kind all the  time.  Directions: Reflect on your actions and  attitudes and let your past inform the  Present  Strive to be kind always to everyone  and unkind to no one. |
| Maxim 72  Align your desires with  Love’s Design  Be Peace!  Nothing is so strong as  gentleness…  Be always ready to obey peacefully, indifferent to all that is not against God's will: to live or to die, to be healthy or ill, happy or unhappy, loved or persecuted, finding always your complete contentment solely in fulfilling God's will. |
| Maxim 77  Always keep in mind  the goal of creating a  social order of love  and don’t get lost in details  Fulfill all the duties of the great and true love of God, and you will fulfill the rest. |
| **Maxim 89**  Be your best as  much as possible!  The returns are highest.  Profit from the opportunities that arise to practice the general virtues in their highest degree. |
| **Maxim 91**  Creating a social  order based on love  is the big time, so  bring your A game!  Be a person of such greatness that what is not God wiII be nothing, and embrace gently and eagerly great apostolic undertakings when the Holy Spirit urges you to this; but, according to this same maxim, whatever you do or suffer, let your heart find it a trifle, as indeed it is, in comparison with the grandeur of God and the worth of his sovereign perfection. |
| **Maxim 99**  God has a continual  evolutionary,  unfolding love!  It’s the sweet spot, reside there.  For the understanding and the practice of the Maxims of Great Virtue, union with God is absolutely necessary because all virtue, ours and everyone else’s, is nothing other than a continual, influence of graces accompanied on our part by a faithful correspondence; and because these graces God communicates more or less abundantly according as one is more or less in union with him. Therefore, work tirelessly towards the total union of your soul with God. |