

## 36. Intimate union with God [Practice]

expé.  
puis

*Sister Marie de la Croix was always a woman with her feet on the ground, so we appreciate the way she describes her intimate experience of God on a small Pacific island where she has been alone as the only sister since October 1859.*

**I surrender to the very simple, even hidden, will of the Divine Master and remain with him in my solitude. In order to understand the meaning of this word 'alone' in all the delight that it holds for the soul, it must be tasted at the ends of the earth on a half-civilized island, in a cabin two metres square, at the edge of a big forest, as the only white woman, the only Sister, alone with Jesus and Mary. What delight! A life of missionary zeal and of Carmel, the two most beautiful vocations can be found in one. Everything for the girls, for the sick, for the care of the church, for the little household and, for the rest – God alone, without anything in the way of distractions that could take us from God! For me, it is such happiness that I'm afraid to see it end.**

Unpublished Letter of Sr Marie de la Croix (Île des Pins)  
to Fr Yardin (Lyons), October 23, 1860, (Letter 24, §5)

The greatness of the Blessed Virgin Mary was in her simplicity, in her ordinariness. She shows us that the insignificant times in our lives are important to God.

