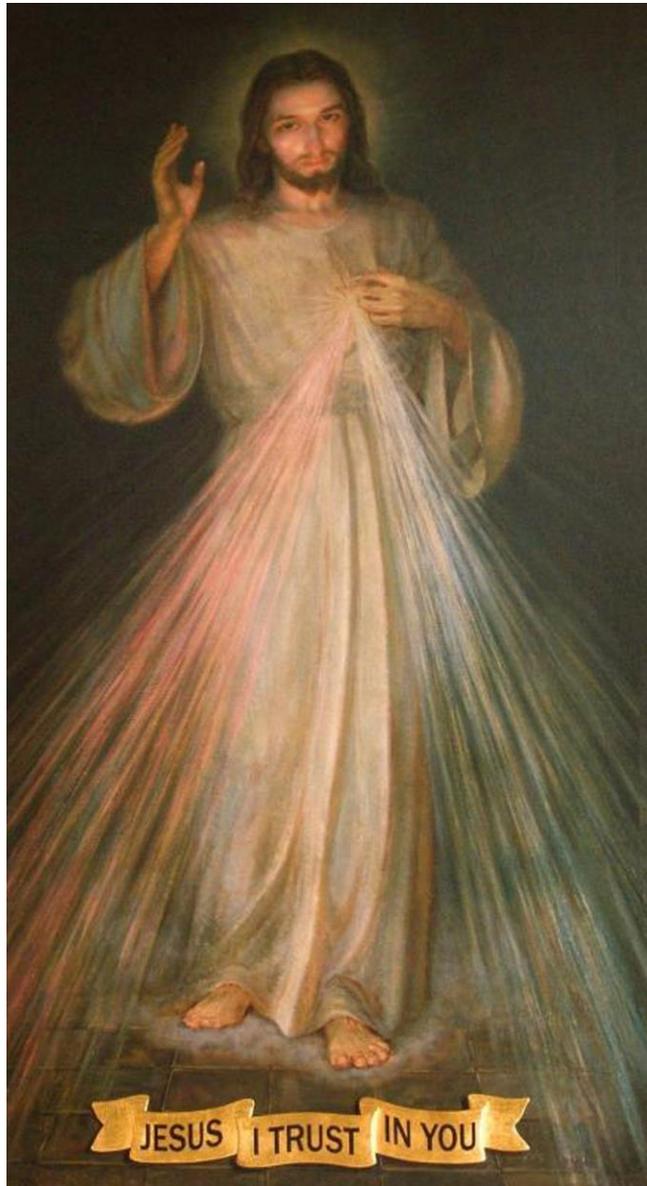


DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Sunday after Easter Sunday



To receive Holy Eucharist worthily, one must be free from grave sin. A person who desires to receive the extraordinary grace promised by Our Lord on Divine Mercy Sunday, therefore, will live in such a way as to be able to receive Holy Eucharist worthily on that day.

**St. Isidore Eucharist Apostles of the Divine Mercy
Meets in the Conference Room the
3rd Monday of each month at 6:30 P.M.**

Divine Mercy Novena begins Good Friday

Purpose of Divine Mercy Sunday

Divine Mercy Sunday is intended to proclaim and to celebrate God's tender mercy, which is available to all who turn to Him with Trust. God is giving us a chance to begin anew. Our attitude should be one of loving trust and complete surrender to His will and to his plan to have mercy on all (cf. Rm 11:32)

We, in turn, perform a great act of mercy when we invite others to trust Him, especially on Divine Mercy Sunday, because it is a day specifically chosen by Jesus Christ as a day of extraordinary grace. On that day He offers a complete outpouring of His mercy upon all who approach Him with trust and expectant faith: "Though your sins be as scarlet I will make them white as snow" (Is:1:18).

What is the Message of Divine Mercy?

The message of Divine Mercy is at the heart of the gospel. It presents the truth and the call of the gospel and it is proclaimed by Pope John Paul II in his encyclical, *dives in Misericordia* (Rich in Mercy):

The Church must consider it one of her principal duties at every stage of history and especially in our modern age to proclaim and to introduce into life the mystery of mercy supremely revealed in Jesus Christ. (14)

The message is simply that God is merciful, that He is Love poured out for us, and He wants all of us to turn to Him with trust in repentance and conversion while there is still time.

The message of Divine Mercy is not new. In the Past God spoke a message of mercy through the patriarchs and prophets, e.g. Noah, Abraham, Moses, Elijah and many others. In the last days He has spoken to us through His Son, Jesus Christ, who is Mercy Incarnate. God continues to speak a word of mercy even in our generation through the Church and its shepherds and through holy men and women whom God has chosen as His Messengers and vessels.

Helen Kowalski, now known as St. Faustina was born August 25, 1905 in Glowgowice, Poland was accepted to the congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in August 1925. The Diary "Divine Mercy in My Soul" contain the revelations given to St. Faustina by Our Lord tells the Mercy of God for the entire world.

There are several elements that make up the devotion to Divine Mercy. Trust is the virtue that is the foundation and essence of those desiring to live the Message of Divine Mercy.

In addition to the Novena to the Divine Mercy, Our Lord revealed to her a powerful prayer that He wanted everyone to say—The Chaplet of Mercy, which can be said anytime, but the Lord specifically asked that it be recited as a Novena, especially on the nine days before the feast of mercy. He promised, "By this Novena (of chaplets) I will grant every possible grace to souls".

In the diary a vision of St. Faustina on September 13, 1935 she writes; "I saw an angel, the executor of God's wrath about to strike the earth...I began to beg God earnestly for the world with words which I heard interiorly. As I prayed in this way, I saw the Angel's helplessness and he could not carry out the just punishment".

Begin with the Sign of the Cross, 1 Our Father, 1 Hail Mary and the Apostles Creed.

The on the Our Father Beads say the following:

Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On each of the 10 Hail Mary beads say the following:

"For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."

Repeat on all five decades. Conclude with (saying 3 times)

"Holy God, Holy Mighty one, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world."