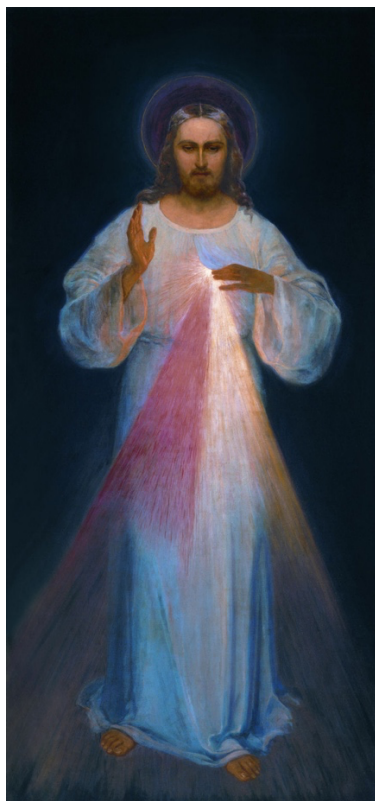




ST. GERTRUDE
CHURCH



DIVINE MERCY PRAYER SERVICE

April 16, 2023 at 3 P.M.

WORDS FROM OUR LORD TO ST. MARIA FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

"My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy."

— Diary of St. Faustina, no. 699

SPECIAL GRACES AND PLENARY INDULGENCE

On June 29, 2002, in a decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary, the Holy Father Pope John Paul II granted a plenary indulgence to the devout observance of the Second Sunday of Easter, "Divine Mercy Sunday." The decree offers a plenary indulgence, granted under the usual conditions (sacramental confession, Eucharistic communion and prayer for the intentions of Supreme Pontiff) to the faithful who, on the Second Sunday of Easter or Divine Mercy Sunday, in any church or chapel, in a spirit that is completely detached from the affection for a sin, even a venial sin, take part in the prayers and devotions held in honor of Divine Mercy, or who, in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament exposed or reserved in the tabernacle, recite the Our Father and the Creed, adding a devout prayer to the merciful Lord Jesus (i.e. "Merciful Jesus, I trust in you!").

*Further information about the indulgence
can be found by scanning the QR code below:*



Cover: Divine Mercy, Eugeniusz Kazimirowski, 1934



ORDER OF SERVICE

Divine Mercy Prayer Service

CONFESSIONS

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is offered from 2–4 P.M. Music during confessions begins at 2:30 P.M.

MUSIC DURING CONFESSIONS

ORGAN PRELUDE

O Man, Weep Greatly Your Sin, BWV 622

Johann Sebastian Bach

ANTIPHON

Sung in the same way as a Responsorial Psalm:



At-ten-de Do-mi-ne, et mi-se-re-re, qui-a pec-ca-vi-mus ti-bi.
Hear us, Lord, and have mercy, who have sinned against you.

Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is remitted.

Blessed the man to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, in whose spirit is no guile. *℞.*

To you I have acknowledged my sin; my guilt I did not hide. I said, "I will confess my transgression to the Lord." And you have forgiven the guilt of my sin. *℞.*

So let each faithful one pray to you in the time of need.

The floods of the water may reach high, but such a one they shall not reach. *℞.*

You are a hiding place for me; you keep me safe from distress;

You surround me with cries of deliverance. *℞.*

Many sorrows have the wicked,

but loving mercy surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord. *℞.*

Words: Psalm 32:1–2, 5, 6, 7, 10

Music: Dominican Chant

ORGAN PRELUDE

Have Mercy on Me, O Lord God

Johann Nikolaus Hanff

PSALM 143

The cantor sings:

Listen, O Lord, to my prayer; turn your ear to my appeal.
You are faithful, you are just: give answer.
Do not call your servant to judgment, for no one is righteous in your sight.

The foe has pursued my soul; he has crushed my life to the ground.
He has made me dwell in darkness, like those long dead.
Therefore my spirit fails; my heart is desolate within me.

I remember the days that are past; I ponder all your works.
I muse on what your hand has wrought, and to you I stretch out my hands.
My soul is like a parched land before you.

O Lord, make haste and answer me, for my spirit fails within me.
Do not hide your face from me, lest I become like those going down to the pit.

In the morning, let me hear your loving mercy,
for in you I place my trust.
Make me know the way I should walk; to you I lift up my soul.

Rescue me, O Lord, from my foes; to you have I fled for refuge.
Teach me to do your will, for you are my God.
Let your good spirit guide me upon ground that is level.

Lord, save my life for the sake of your name; in your justice, lead my soul out of distress.
In your mercy make an end of my foes; destroy all those who oppress my soul,
for I am your servant.

Music: Dominican Chant

ORGAN PRELUDE

Dearest Jesus, We are Here to Hear You, BWV 731

Johann Sebastian Bach

EXPOSITION OF THE MOST BLESSED SACRAMENT

HYMN

At 3 P.M., the priest proceeds to the tabernacle and all kneel. When opened, all sing:

O salutaris hostia

St. Michael Hymnal 683, verses 1–2

CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

Meditations from the Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska will be read throughout the Chaplet.

OPENING PRAYERS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

You expired, Jesus,

but the source of life gushed forth for souls,

and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world.

O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy,

envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us,

I trust in You.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;

thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee.

Blessed art thou among women,

and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,

now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting.
Amen.**

FOR EACH DECADE OF THE CHAPLET

On the bead before each decade:

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.**

The beads of each decade:

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

After five decades, all say three times:

**Holy God,
Holy Mighty One,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy on us and on the whole world.**

CLOSING PRAYER

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless,
and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible,
look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us,
that in difficult moments,
we might not despair, nor become despondent,
but with great confidence,
submit ourselves to Your holy will,
which is Love and Mercy Itself.
Amen.

CONSECRATION TO MERCIFUL LOVE

All pray together:

Merciful Father,
relying on the prayers and example of Abraham and Mary,
my father and mother in faith,
and of St. Thérèse,
my sister in the way of humble confidence,
I choose, this day,
with the help of your grace,
to strive with all my heart to follow the Little Way.
And so:

I firmly intend to fight discouragement,
do little things with great love,
and be merciful to my neighbor
in deed, word, and prayer.

I aim to keep before my eyes my poverty,
weakness, brokenness, and sin,
trusting that my littleness and contrite heart
will attract your Merciful Love.

I, N., choose to remain always little,
not relying on my own merits but solely on yours,
dear Lord, and those of the Blessed Mother.

Finally, I believe, my God,
that you can and will make me into a saint,
even if I won't see it,
even if I have to struggle all my life against vice and sin,
even if I have to wait until the very end.

This blind hope in your mercy,
O Lord, is my only treasure.
And now, to confirm my resolve
and to console you for so much rejection of your mercy,

I OFFER MYSELF,
THROUGH THE HANDS OF MARY IMMACULATE,
AS A VICTIM OF HOLOCAUST TO YOUR MERCIFUL LOVE,
asking you to consume me incessantly,
allowing the waves of infinite tenderness
shut up within you to overflow into my soul,
and that I may thus become a martyr of your Love,
O my God, and a gift of mercy to so many others.
I ask all this in Jesus's name.
Amen.

*Words: Michael E. Gaitley, M.I.C., 33 Days to Merciful Love
(Stockbridge, Massachusetts: Marian Press, 2016), 134–135.*

LITANY OF TRUST

From the belief that I have to earn Your love:
Deliver me, Jesus.

From the fear that I am unlovable:
Deliver me, Jesus.

From the false security that I have what it takes:

Deliver me, Jesus.

From the fear that trusting You will leave me more destitute:

Deliver me, Jesus.

From all suspicion of Your words and promises:

Deliver me, Jesus.

From the rebellion against childlike dependency on You:

Deliver me, Jesus.

From refusals and reluctances in accepting Your will:

Deliver me, Jesus.

From anxiety about the future:

Deliver me, Jesus.

From resentment or excessive preoccupation with the past:

Deliver me, Jesus.

From restless self-seeking in the present moment:

Deliver me, Jesus.

From disbelief in Your love and presence:

Deliver me, Jesus.

From the fear of being asked to give more than I have:

Deliver me, Jesus.

From the belief that my life has no meaning or worth:

Deliver me, Jesus.

From the fear of what love demands:

Deliver me, Jesus.

From discouragement:

Deliver me, Jesus.

That You are continually holding me, sustaining me, loving me:

Jesus, I trust in you.

That Your love goes deeper than my sins and failings, and transforms me:

Jesus, I trust in you.

That not knowing what tomorrow brings is an invitation to lean on You:

Jesus, I trust in you.

That You are with me in my suffering:

Jesus, I trust in you.

That my suffering, united to Your own, will bear fruit in this life and the next:

Jesus, I trust in you.

That You will not leave me orphan, that You are present in Your Church:

Jesus, I trust in you.

That Your plan is better than anything else:

Jesus, I trust in you.

That You always hear me, and in Your goodness always respond to me:

Jesus, I trust in you.

That You give me the grace to accept forgiveness and to forgive others:

Jesus, I trust in you.

That You give me all the strength I need for what is asked:

Jesus, I trust in you.

That my life is a gift:

Jesus, I trust in you.

That You will teach me to trust You:

Jesus, I trust in you.

That You are my Lord and my God:

Jesus, I trust in you.

That I am Your beloved one:

Jesus, I trust in you.

Words: Sister Faustina Maria Pia, S.V.

SOLEMN BENEDICTION

HYMN

Tantum ergo

All kneel and sing:

St. Michael Hymnal 707, verses 5–6

RESPONSORY

You have given them Bread from heaven. Alleluia.

Having all sweetness within it. Alleluia.

COLLECT

The priest says the collect; at the end, all respond:

Amen.

DIVINE PRAISES

The priests blesses all present with the Eucharist, then begins the Divine Praises:

Blessed be God.

Blessed be his holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true Man.

Blessed be the name of Jesus.

Blessed be his most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be his most Precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the most holy Sacrament of the altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.

Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.

Blessed be her glorious Assumption.

Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.

Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.

Blessed be God in his angels and in his saints.

TE DEUM

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

All sing:

St. Michael Hymnal 553, verses 1–3

AFTER THE SERVICE

ANTIPHON

The cantor sings:

Misericordia Domini
plena est terra, alleluia:
verbo Dei cæli
firmati sunt, alleluia, alleluia.

*The merciful love of the Lord
fills the earth, alleluia:
by the word of the Lord
the heavens were made, alleluia, alleluia.*

Ÿ. Reminiscere miserationum tuarum,
Domine, et misericordiarum tuarum
quae a saeculo sunt.

Ÿ. *Remember your compassion,
O Lord, and your mercy,
which are from of old.*

Ÿ. Secundum misericordiam tuam
memento mei tu,
propter bonitatem tuam, Domine.

Ÿ. *According to your mercy,
remember me,
because of your goodness, O Lord.*

Ÿ. Custodi animam meam,
et erue me: non erubescam,
quoniam speravi in te.

Ÿ. *Keep my soul,
and deliver me: I will not be put to shame,
for I have trusted in you.*

Ÿ. Gloria Patri, et Filio,
et Spiritui Sancto, sicut erat
in principio, et nunc, et semper,
et in saecula saeculorum. Amen.

Ÿ. *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit, as it was
in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.*

*Antiphon: Psalm 33:5–6
Versicles: Psalm 25:6, 7b, 20
Music: Dominican Chant*

ORGAN POSTLUDE

When We are in the Greatest Need, BWV 641

Johann Sebastian Bach