

THE FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY

According to Jesus' wish, the Feast of Mercy is to be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Jesus is showing us the close connection between the Easter mystery of man's Redemption and this feast. The liturgy for this day extols God most fully in the mystery of His mercy.

The Feast of Mercy is to be not only a day designated for the singular worship of God's Mercy, but also a day of grace for all people, particularly for sinners. Jesus attached great promises to this feast, the greatest of which is connected with the reception of Holy Communion on that day. It is the promise of *complete forgiveness of sins and punishment*. In other words, this grace is equal only to the one we receive in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. The greatness of this feast lies also in the fact that everyone, even those who are converted that very day, may obtain any grace for the asking, if what they ask for be compatible with God's will. *I want this image, Jesus told Sister Faustina, . . . to be solemnly blessed*

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

(to be recited on ordinary Rosary beads)

Begin with:

Our Father ..., **Hail Mary** ..., **The Apostles' Creed**.

Then, on the **OUR FATHER BEADS** you will say the following words:

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 the **HAIL MARY BEADS** you will say the following words:

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

In conclusion. **THREE TIMES** you will recite these words:

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

(From the *Diary of St. Maria Faustina Kowalska*, 476)

IMPRIMATUR: Joseph F. McGuire November 17, 1979 Bishop of Springfield, MA

"Through the chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for will be compatible with My will" (*Diary*, 1731, see also 1541).

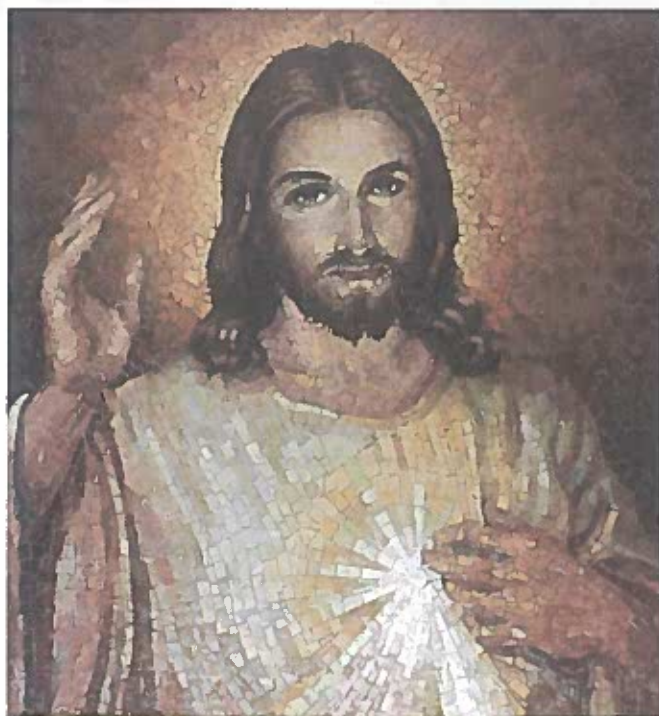
"By this novena [of chaplets, before the Feast of Mercy]. I will grant every possible grace to souls" (*Diary*, 796).

"Even if a sinner were most hardened, if only once he will recite this chaplet, he will obtain grace from My infinite mercy" (*Diary*, 687).

on the first Sunday after Easter; that Sunday is to be the Feast of Mercy (49). I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a joyful feast for all sinners, 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 are open all the divine flood-gates through which graces flow. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet (699).

The Feast of My Mercy has issued forth from My very depths for the consolation of the whole world (1517) and is confirmed in the vast depths of My tender mercies (420).

The preparation for this feast is to be a novena consisting of the recitation of the Divine Mercy Chaplet for nine days, beginning on Good Friday. Sister Faustina's Diary also contains another novena which Jesus dictated for her own personal use and attached to it a promise regarding her person alone. All Christians may likewise make this novena with fervor and that is why we have included it in this prayer book.



Divine Mercy Novena

A Novena of Holy Masses and prayers
will be celebrated at

the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy
in Stockbridge, Massachusetts

April 7 - 15