Recent Revelations on the Mercy of God Devotion including The Novena to The Mercy of God

(for private recitation only)

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DECLARATION

In accordance with the decrees of Pope Urban VIII we wish to state that only private and human faith is attributed the revelations, extraordinary graces and incidents related in this pamphlet, to which the Church has not yet added its decree of approval. Furthermore, in relating these incidents and graces we have no intention of anticipating the decree of the Holy See, to which we willingly and entirely submit ourselves.

"JESUS, I TRUST IN THEE"

God is Merciful! Many passages in the Holy Scriptures tell us so. All the works of God give testimony to this truth. Being goodness itself and perfectly happy, God desires the good and the happiness of His creatures. It was for this reason that He created the heavenly spirits and the visible world and in it Man upon whom He showers countless graces in His Mercy. Our Blessed Lord takes individual and special care of every human being; He anticipates all our actions

rays shield the soul before the wrath of My Father. Fortunate is he who lives in their brilliance, for the just hand of God shall never reach him."

"I desire that the first Sunday after Easter be celebrated as the Feast of Mercy. Ask your confessor to speak to all the world on this day of my great Mercy; that anyone who approaches on this day the source of Life, will obtain complete remission of punishment and sin. Mankind will not find peace, unless it turns with confidence to My Mercy."

"I promise that the soul which shall venerate this picture will not perish. I further promise that soul victory over its enemies already here on earth and especially in the hour of death. I myself shall defend that soul as my own glory."

Then Our Lord commended the following ejaculation to be recited at each entrance into the chapel: "O Blood and Water, which hath gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a font of Mercy for us, I trust in Thee!"

The above mentioned painting was something new and heretofore unknown in this form in the Church and, hence, could not be exposed publicly in any church without the necessary permission of the Church Authorities. Consequently it was not until 1937 that the confessor petitioned the proper Authorities for permission to have the picture publicly exposed in church. A commission was appointed and assigned to investigate whether the picture is suitable for exposition in a Catholic Church. The answer of the commission was favorable. On the 3rd of April, 1937, with the permission of the Archbishop of Vilno, the painting was publicly exposed in the Church of St. Michael. where it remains to this day.

The same year the confessor visited Sister Faustina in Cracow and discovered in her diary certain prayers, among which worthy of note are the Novena, Litany and Corona (or Chaplet) of Divine Mercy. In answer to his questions she told him that Our Lord Himself dictated these prayers to her during one of His visits to her.

The confessor had these prayers published in Cracow in 1937 and again a second printing in Vilno in 1940. He then had the picture printed separately and on its reverse side the Corona of Mercy. These he sent to the publishers in Cracow. Thus was realized the promise given Sister Faustina by Our Lord: "When punishments for sins shall come upon the earth, and your native land shall be in extreme abasement, the only salvation will be hope in Divine Mercy. I shall preserve the cities and homes in which this picture shall be found: I shall protect likewise those persons who shall venerate and have confidence in My Mercy." Cracow and Vilno were spared from destruction during the present war.

The Reverend Dr. Sopocko concludes his Memorial with the following declaration. "In everything I submit wholeheartedly and humbly to the judgements of the Church and prior to Her decision I attribute to the above facts solely human faith. I have become convinced of the need of establishing a special cult of Di-

vine Mercy, both private and public, through the institution of a feast under that title, not so much by the revelations given Sister Faustina, which were but a means to that end, but through profound consideration and study."

We may add that this devotion to the Mercy of the Sacred Heart constitutes one of the sources of great spiritual strength in Poland today, and we believe, in most of the other countries suffering the hardships and calamities of war. During the war this devotion spread rapidly from Vilno to the entire country despite the Nazi-Soviet frontier. It was the ever present companion of the Poles exiled to the wastes of Siberia, fortifying them with hope and the assurance of delivery.

It even reached the ruins of Warsaw, which have reechoed the cry: "We live, because God so wills it; we shall die, when He so orders; we have confidence that He shall save us, for HIS MERCY IS ETERNAL". (from a letter dated 10.VII.1941).

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, spare us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, graciously hear us, O Lord.

Lamb of God, who takest away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

V.—The Mercies of God are over all his works. (Ps. 144,9)

R.—Therefore, I will sing the Mercies of the Lord forever. (Ps. 88,2)

Let us pray

Most compassionate God, Father of Mercy and Lord of all consolation, who dost not wish the damnation of him who believes and trusts in Thee; look down upon us, we beseech Thee, according to the multitude of Thy mercies and increase Thy Mercy, that even in the greatest trials of this life we may always faithfully comply with Thy will, which is Mercy itself. Through Thy son and Our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with Thee for ever and ever. Amen.

(Chaplet)

CORONA OF MERCY

(For private recitation upon the Rosary beads.)

Our Father . . . Hail Mary . . . Creed . . .

On the large beads:

"Eternal Father, I offer Thee the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Thy Most Beloved Son and our Lord Jesus Christ in atonement for our sins and the sins of the whole world."

On the small beads:

"Through the sorrowful passion of Jesus show mercy unto us and to all the world."

(10 times)

(The same is repeated for every decade of the Rosary and is to be joined with meditation on the mystery of each individual decade). In conclusion add: "Holy God, Holy Omnipotent, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us."

(3 times)