

# THE DIVINE MERCY MESSENGER

www.feastofmercy.net

\*We put the Divine Mercy Messenger under the protection of Our Lady Queen of Peace.

Apparitions of the Blessed Mother .....	pages 1-7
Saint Faustina .....	page 8
Prepare for Final Coming .....	page 9
Divine Mercy Sunday .....	page 10
Novena for Mercy Sunday .....	page 11
Divine Mercy Image .....	page 12
Chaplet of Divine Mercy .....	page 13
Headship in the Family .....	page 14
Soul You are Not Yet Lost .....	pages 15-16
Preparing for Confession .....	page 17
Novena to Divine Mercy .....	page 18
Plenary Indulgence .....	page 19
The Devils and the Rosary .....	page 20

## Medjugorje, The Last Apparition Of The Blessed Mother



### OUR MOTHER'S MESSAGE TO SINNERS:

*July 1982*

*“Whoever has done much evil during his life can go straight to Heaven if he confesses, is sorry for what he has done, and receives Communion at the end of his life.”*

*“I have come to call the world to conversion for the last time. Afterwards, I will not come in apparition any more on this earth.”*

#### THE WORLD AT THIS HOUR

“We have a great responsibility towards the whole world, because truly Medjugorje has become a place of prayer and conversion for the whole world. Accordingly, the Holy Father is concerned and sends me here to help the Franciscan priests to organize and to acknowledge this place as a source of grace for the whole world.”

– Archbishop Henryk Hoser,

Papal Visitor assigned to oversee pastoral care of pilgrims;

Feast of St. James, July 25th, 2018

To order additional copies visit online at [www.feastofmercy.net](http://www.feastofmercy.net) or call **614-732-0662**

You can also contact us at: Laity for Mercy • 5661 Valley Brook Dr., Dublin, Ohio 43016

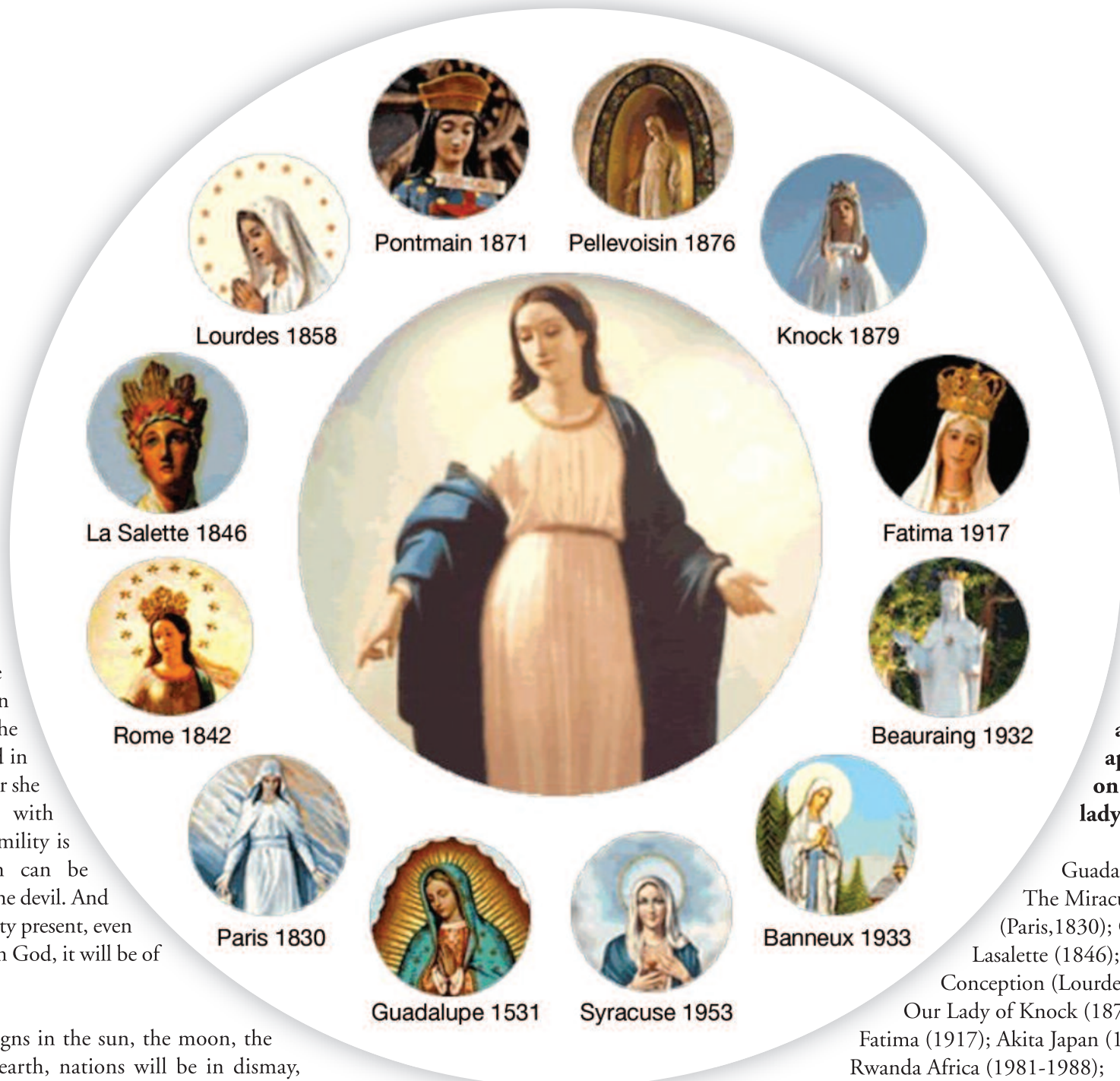
or email: [mcandrewfourlife@gmail.com](mailto:mcandrewfourlife@gmail.com) Discount rates for multiple orders as low as .65 cent donation.

*Great thanks to Tommy Canning for his artwork. You can purchase his fine art at [www.art-of-divinemeracy.co.uk/](http://www.art-of-divinemeracy.co.uk/)*





# Apparitions of the Blessed Virgin Mary



The good or the evil does not lie in the vision, but in the one who sees it and in whether or not he or she profits by it with humility; for if humility is present, no harm can be done, not even by the devil. And if there is no humility present, even if the vision be from God, it will be of no benefit.

“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, the stars, and on the earth, nations will be in dismay, perplexed by the roaring of the sea in the waves. People die of fright in anticipation of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken and then they will see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.” (Luke 21:25-27)

***Now, as in no other time in history, can the gospel be preached to every nation.***

Floods, hurricanes, title waves, sudden volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, and unstable weather patterns; The Bible reminds us: “He never withdraws his mercy from us. Although He disciplines us with misfortunes, He does not abandon his own people.” (Maccabees 6:16)

***“For the sake of his own great name the Lord will not abandon his people, since the Lord Himself chose to make you his people” (1 Samuel 12:22)***

Authentic apparitions of the Blessed mother shed light on the gospel. Her authentic messages throughout the centuries are precisely the same message the mother of Jesus gave at the wedding feast of Cana: ***“Do whatever he [Jesus] tells you”*** (John 2:5). Christian tradition has always held that Jesus at the point of death gave his mother Mary to us. The apostle John, present with Mary at the crucifixion, was standing in for each one of us as Jesus said: “behold your Mother” (John 19:27)

**Some of the most important approved apparitions center on visions of our lady:**

Guadalupe (1531);  
The Miraculous Medal (Paris, 1830); Our Lady of La Salette (1846); Immaculate Conception (Lourdes, 1858);  
Our Lady of Knock (1879); Our Lady of Fatima (1917); Akita Japan (1973-1984);  
Rwanda Africa (1981-1988);  
Our Lady of America (1956)

## **Still under investigation:**

Garabandal, Spain; 1961-1965  
Cairo, Egypt; 1968  
Betania, Venezuela; 1976  
Chaps, Nicaragua; 1980  
San Nicholas, Argentina; 1983-1990  
Holland; 1945-1956  
Philippines; 1948 and 1986  
Damascus, Syria 1982  
Seredne, Ukraine; 1954 and 1987  
Cuenca, Ecuador; 1980  
Medjugorje 1981-





## THE LAST APPARITION, IT WILL CHANGE THE WORLD FOREVER

### 1981- Ongoing

37 years of apparitions of the Blessed Mother have been taking place in Medjugorje

Medjugorje is a profound grace given to us since June, 1981, the message of conversion and reconciliation with God has been uniquely reaffirm by the Blessed mother in the unlikely little village of Medjugorje. She appeared daily to six young people and is still appearing to three daily. According to the visionaries, **“the Mother of Jesus is bringing an urgent plea from her son to mankind to turn away from a world terminally ill with the disease of sin and reconciled with God”**.

In many respects many apparition sites are satellites of Medjugorje. Just as Mary appeared in Fatima to warn the world of atheistic Communism and other evils, she is appearing in Medjugorje and sounding the same alarm.

Since June, 1981, the message of conversion and reconciliation with God has been uniquely reaffirm by the Blessed Mother in the unlikely little village of Medjugorje. She appears daily to these visionaries who live in the valley that lies in the shadow of the cross at Krizevac; According to the visionaries, **“the mother of Jesus is bringing an urgent plea from her son to mankind to turn away from a world terminally ill with the disease of sin and reconciled with God”**.

In the messages of September 25, 1992, Mary



explain to us how Satan is trying to destroy the plans of heaven:

Message:

**“Dear children! Today, also I wish to tell you I am with you on these restless days in which**

Satan wants to destroy everything which I and my Son, Jesus, are building up. In a special way he wishes to destroy your souls. He wishes to guide you as far away as possible from Christian life as well as from the Commandments, to which the church is calling you, so you may live them. Satan wishes to destroy everything which is holy in you and around you. Therefore, little children pray, pray, pray, in order to be able to comprehend all which God is giving you through my coming”.

In the October 25, 1992 message, she warned us that Satan is strong and wishes to make as many as possible his own. She pleaded for us to trust in her and she said that she is here to help and guide us.

Mary also hinted that these apparitions will soon be ending; when this happens, events foretold will unfold rapidly. **We are told by the visionaries that these are the last apparitions on earth and that when they cease, they will cease everywhere.** We were told that when these apparitions cease, three warnings will come to the world and then the visible sign will be given. After the visible sign appears, “those who are still alive will have a little time for conversion. Mary has pleaded;

**“Those separated from God are my children... I grieve for them, because they do not know what awaits them if they do not turn back to God.”**





## MONTHLY CONFESSIONS WILL CURE THE WESTERN CHURCH

Mary emphasized in August, 1982, that the sacrament of reconciliation is important in the process of ongoing conversion. Mary pointed out, **“One must invite people to go to confession each month, especially the first Saturday... monthly confession will be a remedy for the church in the west, one must convey this message to the west!”**

Mary strongly suggest, **“If you want to be happy, lead a simple humble life, pray a great deal, and do not sink into your problems-but leave it to God to resolve them.”**

### FASTING

On July 21, 1982, Mary emphasized **“Through fasting and prayer, one can stop wars; one can suspend the laws of nature.”**

When asked the best fast, she replied; **“Bread and water.”** She asked strictly on Wednesdays and Fridays. Every day pray at least one rosary.

She has pointed out that TV often can be a great source of sin, because after watching so many programs, people feel incapable of praying.



because the world is immersed in a great moral decay. Recite the rosary each evening...*Pray and let the rosary always be on your hands as a sign to Satan that you belong to me.*”

On June 25, 1985, our lady was asked what you you desire from priest. She responded, **“I urge you to ask everyone to pray the rosary. With the rosary, you will overcome all the trouble which Satan is trying to inflict on the Catholic Church. Let all priest pray the rosary. Give time to the rosary.”**

### PRAYER WILL BE YOUR PROTECTION

Satan temporarily has been great power for one century to try the church, reports Mary.

**“However, through prayer and fasting, we can disarm him totally ensure our happiness... Even now he has begun to lose his power and has become more aggressive. He is destroying marriages and creating division among priest. He is responsible for obsessions and murders. Protect yourselves through prayer and fasting and especially community prayer. Restore the use of holy water. Put more blessed objects in your home and let everyone carry blessed objects; because you are armed against Satan.”**

When asked April 11, 1982, whether it was necessary to establish prayer groups in the parish, Mary responded by saying, **“communities of prayer are necessary at all parishes.”**



### PRAYER

The most important thing in life is prayer. She said on December 1983, **“Prayer is a conversation with God; to pray means to listen with God.”**

Mary says all prayer is pleasing to God, conversational prayer, prayer with the use of the Bible, formal prayer, and simply being quiet and listening to God.

It is very important to pray to the Holy Spirit so that he may descend on you. When one has Him, one has everything.

### MASS AND THE BIBLE

Our Lady says, **“The Mass is the greatest prayer from God, and you never understand the greatness of it. Let Holy Mass be your life!”**

Mary recommended on June 2, 1983, **“Today I ask you to read your Bible in your home every day.”**

She urged on October 18, 1984, **“Place it in a visible place there, where it will remind you to read it and to pray.”**

### PRAY THE ROSARY

**“I beg the families of the parish to pray the family rosary. October 8, 1984, Mary had this to say: “All the prayers which you recite in the evening in your homes dedicate them for the conversion of sinners,**





# 10 SECRETS

The Blessed Mother has promised to disclose ten secrets to the visionaries. When all ten secrets are given, the plans of God will start to unfold.”

She has promised to leave a visible sign for all humanity at the site of the apparition, so all would come to know the authenticity of this apparition.

Three visionaries have received all 10 secrets; the other three have received nine. When all ten secrets are revealed, each visionary has chosen a priest to reveal them too. This priest will fast and then reveal the secrets to the world.

Mirjana, One of the visionaries, said that “before the visible sign is given to humanity, they’ll be three warnings to the world.” The warnings will be in the form of events on earth. The ninth and tenth secrets are serious. They concerned chastisements for the sins of the world. Punishment is inevitable; we cannot expect the whole world to be converted.

According to Mirjana, The Events predicted by the Blessed Virgin are near. By virtue of this experience, Mirjana proclaims to the world: ***“Hurry, be converted; open your hearts to God!”***

Mirjana was told by the Blessed Virgin, ***“Satan one day appeared before the throne of God and asked permission to submit the church to a trial. God gave him permission to try the church for one century. This century is under the power of the devil; but when the secrets come to pass, his power will be destroyed.”***

According to certain catholic experts, Pope Leo XIII had a vision of Satan approaching the throne of God and asked permission to submit the church to a period of trial. After this, he introduced the prayer to Saint Michael.

Nowhere recorded in history has an apparition lasted this long. It is approaching its 37th year. These visits by



the Blessed Mother are not called to scare us, but only to bring us back to God.

She does not want us to worry about the future, only to live each day to the fullness in love of her Son and His Church.

Let us never forget are lady ask us for a special devotion to the Eucharist, and if possible, daily Mass. She wants us to visit her Son every day in the Tabernacle’s across the world. To renew a deep devotion to reconciliation; through monthly confession, she claims the west will be saved.

## The first secret:

It was revealed during the first year of the apparitions by the Blessed Virgin that the first secret, or warning, would be a **major upheaval somewhere in the world**. It is not clear if it is to be a geographical, political or religious.

According to Mirjana, it will last for a little while. It will be visible. She says it is necessary to shake up the world a little. It will make the world pause and think. That is all we know about the first secret.

## The second secret:

Not known

The second secret may actually be the often prophecies **“illumination of the soul”**. The illumination of soul will occur at a time known only to God, and **every living person will see his or her soul exactly as God sees it**. It will be given through the Holy Spirit. Every sin committed will be visible to each individual soul, no matter how small or how great the sin; every good deed will be visible, no matter how small or how great the deed. The world will literally stand still for a matter of time as this grace is given to all souls. It will reveal to everyone that God truly exist; it will be impossible to deny it after this merciful grace.

What happens following this illumination will be up to each individual. Those who believe in trusting God will experience great joy and peace, well those without believe will suffer great

pain. **Some may die from the shock of seeing themselves as God sees them**. Yet, everyone will have the free will to except or reject God; unbelievably, there will be those who will still reject God.

Don Stefano Gobbi , and Italian priest who received years of inner locutions from the Blessed Mother was given this message on Pentecost Sunday, June 4, 1995. The Blessed Mother gave this message confirming The illumination: ***“Tongues of fire will come down upon you, my poor children, so ensnared and seduced by all the evil spirits who, during these years, have seen their greatest triumph, and thus, you will be illuminated by this divine light, and you will see your own selves in the mirror of the truth in the holiness of God. It will be like a judgment in miniature, which will open the door of your hearts to receive the great gift of Divine Mercy.”***





# 10 SECRETS



## The third secret

Is this permanent sign?

The Blessed mother said a **permanent sign will be left on the hill** were the first apparition occurred. I believe this will be the most important of the first three secrets because it is a visual sign.

Mirjana said this will be a permanent sign!

### Message:

*“This sign will be given for the atheist. You faithful already have signs and you have become the sign for the atheist. You faithful must not wait for the sign before you convert: convert soon. This time is a time of grace for you. When my Son comes, it will be too late. As a mother I caution you because I love you. The secrets exist, my children nothing is known of those now, but when they are known, it will be too late. Return to prayer, nothing is more important than this. I would like it if the Lord allowed me to review some of the secrets to you, but that which He is doing for you is already a grace which is almost too much.”*

What we have been told by the visionaries is that the permanent sign will be something seen as never before on earth. It can be seen in photographs, but it cannot be touched.

## The fourth - sixth secret

Nothing known

### The seventh secret:

This secret is to be a chastisement, but we were told by the visionaries **through prayer and fasting, it has been mitigated**. That means it is either greatly lessened or mostly wiped out.

### The Eighth secret:

On November 6, 1982, Mirjana reported that she was frightened upon learning the contents of the eight secret.

*She prayed for Mercy to our lady; our lady then said to her, “I have prayed; the punishment has been softened, repeated prayers and fasting reduce punishment from God, but it is not possible to avoid entirely the chastisement. Go onto the streets of the city, count those who glorify God and those who offend God, God can no longer endure that.”*

This shows us prayer and fasting and penance we can lessen chastisements that are to come.

## The ninth secret:

All that is known is that it's a severe chastisement. Again through prayer and fasting it can be lessened.

### The tenth secret:

Is known to be the final chastisement. **Our lady said that once all ten secrets are revealed, the earth will be purified.**

### Could this be the Three Days of Darkness?

These three days of darkness has been announced by many mystics and Saints.

Padre Pio, Blessed Anna-Marie Taigi, Blessed Elizabeth Canori-Mora, Rosa-Colombia Asdente, Palma d'Oria, in Italy ; Father Nectou, in Belgium; Saint Hildegard, in Germany and the list goes on.

### Our Lords words to Saint Faustina:

*“All light in the heavens will be extinguished, and there will be great darkness over the whole earth. Then the sign of the cross will be seen in the sky, and from the openings where the hands and the feet of the Savior were nailed will come forth great lights which will light up the earth for a period of time. This will take place shortly before the last day.”* (Diary, 83)



# TEN SECRETS

**These ten secrets are our Lords, Divine Mercy. They are not about punishment,** they are about love. We can no longer live in these conditions that we have caused to the earth and to our fellow man. God in his love will be cleansing the earth from all the sin disease that mankind has brought on itself and bring a new sunshine to the earth. Love will live in the hearts of every man and woman; God will be worshiped and adored by all. **The Immaculate Heart of Mary will have triumphed.**

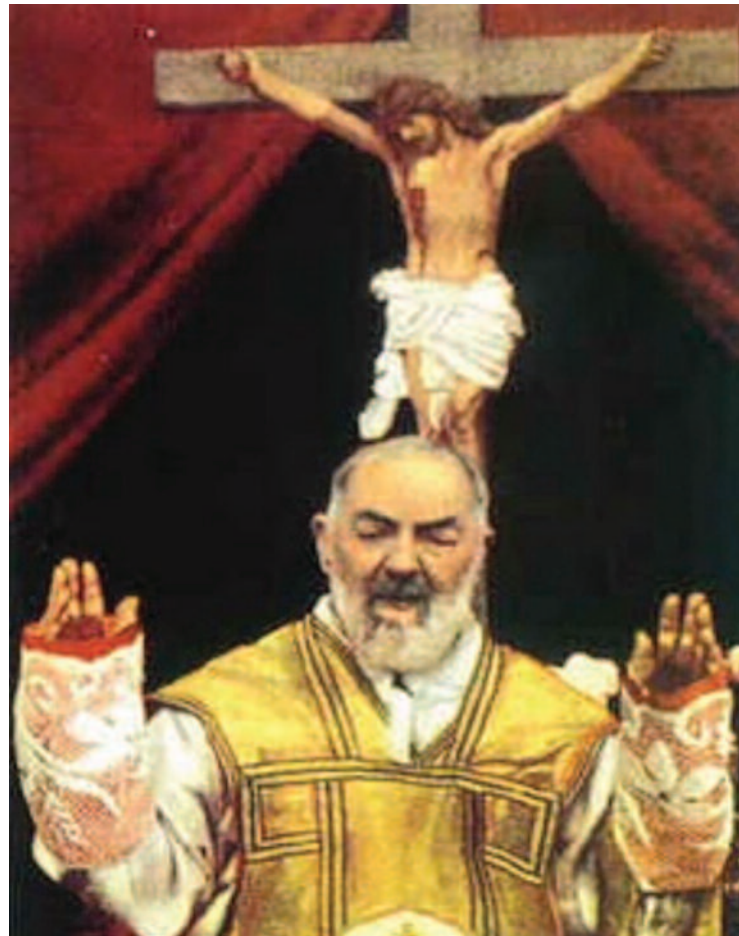
## **Prophesied three days of darkness:**

It will begin on a bitterly cold winter night in the northern hemisphere; the wind will howl roar with lightning and thunder bolts with great magnitude will strike the earth. The whole earth will shake. And moon and the stars will be disturbed and would not be seen in a normal way. Then, every demon, every evil spirit will be released from hell and allowed to roam the earth.

Terrifying apparitions will take place. Many will die of great freight. Fire will rain from the sky; all cities will be destroyed, poisonous gases will feel the air. Cries will be heard everywhere. Unbelievers we'll burn in the open like weather grass. The entire earth will be afflicted; it will look like a huge graveyard.

We are told through these prophecies that as soon as we see and noticed the bitterly cold night, we are to go indoors, lock all our doors and windows, pull down the blinds, stick adhesive paper on vents and around windows and doors. We are not to answer the calls or pleas from outside, which will sound like our relatives, our children and our friends, even though the temptation will be overwhelmingly to respond.

**In order to protect ourselves, we are to light blessed wax candles,** which can be obtained by asking a priest to bless any wax candle. Nothing Else will burn, but can-



dles will not be extinguished once lit. Nothing will put them out in the houses of the faithful, but they will not burn in the houses of the godless. Second, we should sprinkle holy water, again, what are blessed by a priest, about the house and especially near doors and windows; The devil's fear holy water! We are to bless ourselves with it and our five senses with it, eyes, ears, nose, mouth, hands, feet and four head. We should keep on hand a sufficient supply of drinking water and if possible, some food. During the purification, we are to kneel down and pray insistently with outstretched arms, or prostrate on the floor. We should make acts of contrition, faith, hope, and charity. Above all we should pray the rosary and meditate on the sorrowful mysteries.

**Mercifully, some people, especially children, will be taken up to heaven beforehand to spare them the fright of three days.** People caught outdoors would die instantly. 3/4 of the human race would be exterminated, more men than women. No one will escape the three days of darkness. When all seems lost and hopeless, in the blink of an eye the ordeal will be over. The final secret will be done. Once again, the sun will rise and shine as in springtime; the earth will be a purified.

Messages obtain from apparitions, visions, and locutions are called private revelations and do not belong to the deposit of faith (revealed truth in the Scriptures and tradi-

tion). They do not complete or improve the revelations of Jesus Christ. Private revelations are not sacred text. It may bring guidance, strength, and grace to God's people at a certain time in history.

**On November 2, 2018,** Mirjana received her monthly apparition of the Blessed Mother

**"Dear children,** My motherly heart suffers as I am looking at my children who do not love the truth, those who are hiding it - as I look at my children who do not pray with their feelings and actions. I am sad as I am saying to my Son that many of my children no longer have faith, that they do not know Him - my Son. That is why I call you, apostles of my love: you strive to look to the very depth in human hearts and there you are certain to find the little hidden treasure. To look in this way is mercy from the Heavenly Father. To seek the good even where there is the greatest evil - to strive to comprehend each other and not to judge - that is what my Son is asking of you. And I, as a mother, am calling you to listen to Him. My children, the spirit is mightier than the flesh, and, carried by love and actions, it overcomes all obstacles. Do not forget: my Son has loved you and loves you. His love is with you and in you when you are one with Him. He is the light of the world and no one and nothing will be able to stop Him in the final glory.

Therefore, apostles of my love, do not be afraid to witness the truth. Witness it with enthusiasm, with works, with love, with your sacrifice, and, above all, in humility. Witness the truth to all those who have not come to know my Son. I will be alongside you. I will encourage you. Witness the love which never ends because it comes from the Heavenly Father who is eternal and who offers eternity to all of my children. The spirit of my Son will be alongside you. Anew I am calling you, my children: pray for your shepherds, pray that the love of my Son may lead them. Thank you."







# Who is this Saint Faustina that Our Lord asks to spread His mercy?

Sister Faustina Kowalska is known today as the Apostle of the Divine Mercy.

She was the third of ten children born into a poor pious family in Glogowiec, Poland. When she was only seven, she already sensed in her soul the call to embrace the religious life. Sister Faustina tried hard to ignore this Divine call; however, by a vision of the suffering Christ and by the words of His approach, "How long shall I put up with you and how long will you keep putting me off?" Sister Faustina joined the cloister in the convent of the Sister of Our Lady of Mercy in Warsaw.

Her entire life was spent striving for an even fuller union with God and on self sacrificing in cooperation with Jesus in the work of saving souls.

This simple uneducated but courageous woman, was consigned the great mission by Our Lord Jesus to proclaim His message of mercy, to the whole world. His message was recorded in a diary kept by Saint Faustina.

## Our Lord Speaks:

**"I am sending you with My mercy to the people of the whole world. I do not want to punish aching mankind, but I desire to heal it, pressing it to My merciful heart."** (Diary 1588) **"You are secretary of My mercy; I have chosen you for office in this and the next life."** (Diary 1605)... **"To make known to souls the great mercy that I have for them, and to exhort them to trust in the bottomless depth of My mercy."** (Diary 1567)

## Our Lord Speaks:

**"I am giving them the last hope of salvation. That is, recourse to My mercy. If they will not adore My mercy, they will perish for all eternity."** (Diary 965)

## Saint Faustina's Vision of Hell

Sister Faustina recorded in the diary a vision of Hell: "I, Sister Faustina Kowalska, by the order of God, have visited the abysses of Hell so that I might tell souls about it and testify to its existence... The

devils were full of hatred for me, but they had to obey me at the command of God. What I have written is but a pale shadow of the things I saw. But, I noticed one thing, that most of the souls there are those who disbelieved that there is a Hell.

Today I was led by an angel to the chasms of Hell. It is a place of great tortures; how awesomely large and extensive it is! The kind of tortures I saw:

"The first torture that constitutes Hell is the loss of God. The second is perpetual remorse of conscience. The third is that one's condition will never change. The fourth is the fire that will penetrate the soul without destroying it. A terrible suffering since it is a purely spiritual fire, lit by God's anger. The fifth torture is a continual darkness and a terrible suffocation smell, and despite the darkness, the devils and the souls of the damned see each other and all the evil, both of others and their own. The sixth torture is horrible despair, hatred of God, vile words, curses and blasphemies; indescribable sufferings. There are the torments of the senses. Each soul undergoes terrible and indescribable suffering related to the manner which it has sinned.

**No one can say there is no Hell. Let the sinner know that he will be tortured throughout all eternity on those senses which he made use of to sin.** (Diary 741)

## The Diary of Sister Faustina

The Diary of Sister Faustina is the record of her life experience - the journey of her soul. She was graced by a special communion with God, and the diary expresses her conviction that this communion ought to be the center of our lives. Our deepest hope is that this diary may truly be a vehicle of grace for all who read it. For in reading it, we can see that the mercy of God lives forever. Above all, we hope that all people will be struck by the truth that mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to God's mercy.

Saint Faustina died on October 5, 1938, barely 33 years old, having been a religious leader for 13 years.

Sister Faustina was ordered by Our Lord to keep a diary the last four years of her life.

**Private revelations do not offer new doctrine or belief. But, they do provide extraordinary guidance for the church, emphasizing specific and urgent ways of putting faith into action. They present us with God's evaluation of what is most needed at particular times.**







# PREPARE THE WORLD FOR MY FINAL COMING

Our Lord makes it very clear to Saint Faustina the urgent need proclaim His message of mercy, because the world needs it as a preparation for His coming again.

## Our Lord Speaks:

*“Speak to the world about my mercy... it is a sign for the end times. After it will come the day of justice (848)... you will prepare the world for my final coming (429)... tell the souls about this great mercy of mine, because they awful day, the day of my justice, is near.” (965)*

## Our Lord Speaks:

*“Before the day of justice, I am sending the day of Mercy (1588)... I am prolonging the time of mercy for the sake of sinner. But woe to them if they do not recognize this time of My visitation (1160)... while there is still time, let them have recourse to the fountain of My Mercy (848)... he who refuses to pass through the door of My Mercy must pass through the door of My justice.” (1146)*

## TRUST

The message of Divine Mercy is at the heart of the gospel. Turn to the Lord's mercy with trust, receive His mercy with thanksgiving, and share His mercy with others.

Trust in Mercy is to love God and your neighbor; this is the very essence of the message. Trust is the living faith that we place in our merciful Savior, Jesus. Mercy is the Lord's life giving love poured out upon us sinners; life giving love that we share with one another. This message is a life transforming power to change us.

Our Lord told saint Faustina to proclaim His mercy to the whole world and encouraged sinners to trust in His mercy by prayer and the sacrifice of their sufferings. She described her mission in the church, “to proclaim and plead for mercy for the whole world.”

This devotion is to transform us so we can be a living witness of mercy. We must put complete trust in Him and become a living image of His mercy.



## GREATEST MIRACLES

### Our Lord Speaks:

*“When you go to Confession, to this fountain of mercy, the blood and water which came forth from My heart always flows down upon your soul (Diary 1602)... In the tribunal of mercy [Confession]... the greatest miracles take place and are incessantly repeated (Diary 1448)... Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy (Diary 1602)... Come with faith to the feet of My representative (Diary 1448)... I, Myself, am waiting there for you. I am only hidden*

*by the priest... I, Myself, act in your soul (Diary 1602)... Make your confession before Me. The person of the priest is, for Me, only a screen. Never analyze what sort of a priest it is that I am making use of; open your soul in confession as you would to Me, and I will fill it with My light” (Diary 1725).*

### Our Lord Speaks:

*“Were a soul like a decaying corpse, so that from a human standpoint, there would be no hope of restoration and everything would already be lost. It is not so with God. The miracle of Divine Mercy restores that soul in full... From this fountain of mercy, souls draw graces solely with the vessel of trust. If their trust is great, there is no limit to My generosity” (Diary 1448).*

By showing the importance of confession our Lord made it necessary for obtaining His promise of complete forgiveness of sins and punishment for observing the Feast of Mercy (Divine Mercy Sunday).

When we sin, we start pulling away from grace. First with venial sins, we slowly move away from our Baptismal promise, and then mortal sins put a total separation, a wall between us and our Redeemer. We start to tell the Lord, “It's my will now, not yours.” But, through the Sacrament of Confession, we renew our Baptismal vows. We once again proclaim Christ, Lord of our Life and not Satan. We open up the door we closed on Him and tell Him we would like a personal relationship with Him.





## DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY • APRIL 11, 2021

### DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY APRIL 28, 2019

#### *Our Lord Speaks:*

“Speak to the world about My mercy... it is a sign for the end times. After it will come the day of justice (Diary 848)... Souls perish in spite of My bitter passion...I am giving them the last hope of salvation; that is, the Feast of Mercy. If they will not adore My Mercy, they will perish for all eternity. Secretary of My mercy, write, tell souls about this great mercy of Mine, because the awful day, the day of My justice, is near” (Diary #965).

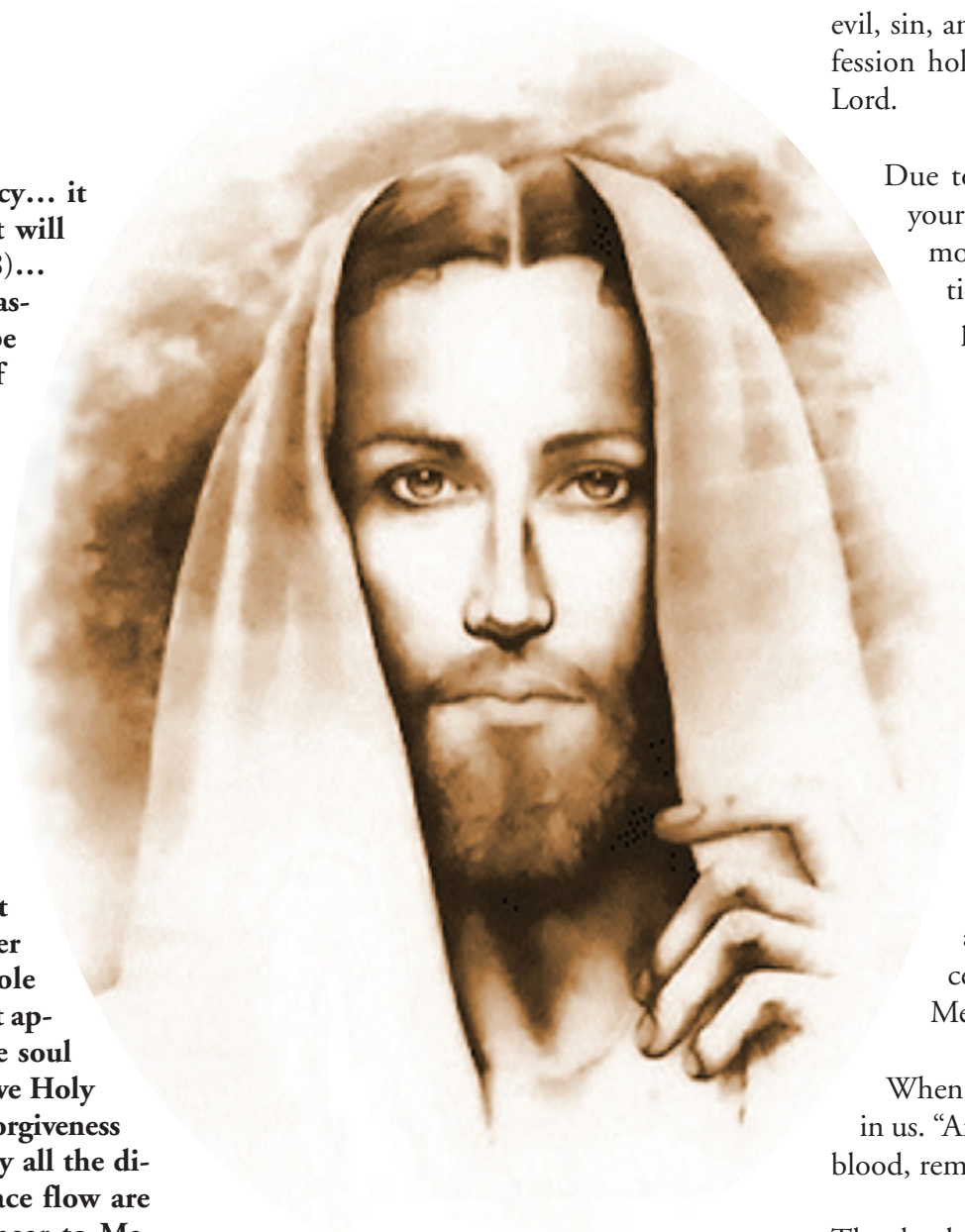
#### *Our Lord Speaks:*

“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 these souls that approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sin and punishment. On that day all the divine flood gates through which grace 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 angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity.” (Diary 699).

#### *Our Lord Speaks:*

“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 (Diary 699) ...I desire that priests proclaim this great mercy of Mine towards souls of sinners. Let the sinner not be afraid to approach Me, the flames of mercy are burning Me-clamoring to be spent; I want to pour them out upon these souls” (Diary 50).

APRIL 30, 2000 - JOHN PAUL II  
ANNOUNCES THE SECOND SUNDAY OF  
EASTER AS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Pope John Paul II said in his canonization of Sister Faustina, “It is important that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the church will be called Divine Mercy Sunday.”

The Pope said that this gift of mercy will be particularly needed in the third millennium. Mercy Sunday, as the main revelation that Jesus gave to St. Faustina, is the crowning of that gift of mercy for the whole world in our time.

#### PREPARING FOR MERCY SUNDAY

When preparing ourselves for Divine Mercy Sunday, we promise by going to confession, to focus on God’s mercy which is love and more powerful than

evil, sin, and death. We give a whole-hearted confession holding nothing back from our merciful Lord.

Due to the great crowds on Mercy Sunday your confession may not get heard; it would most acceptable to go prior to the celebration. **Jesus would never ask for the impossible of our priest** to hear all those confessions in one day. Most parishes will be making confession more available during Lent and especially during Holy Week.

To receive this extraordinary gift of pardon of all sin and punishment, we must receive Holy Communion on the actual day of the Feast of Divine Mercy. Jesus promised Saint Faustina that those who received Holy Communion in a state of grace (having confessed all sins) would receive “**the complete remission of sins and punishment.**”

“Christ made the remission of all sins and punishment contingent on the reception of Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday.

When we receive, we live in Him and He lives in us. “Anyone who eats My flesh and drinks My blood, remains in Me and I in him.” (John: 6:56)

The theologian who examined St. Faustina’s writings for the Holy See, Rev. Rozycki, explained that, “this is the promise of a complete renewal of baptismal grace, and in a sense it is like a second Baptism

It is clearly obvious that in order to receive these graces of Divine Mercy Sunday, one must be in the state of grace and **partake of Our Lord worthily.** Even though there is no such thing as a second baptism and yet our Lord is offering graces that are similar.

#### THE SICK AND DYING

For those who are to sick or dying, our Lord made the contingent on receiving the grace of complete pardon of sin and punishment, on confessing one’s sins and receiving Holy Communion; not all can make it to Mass this day.





# NINE DAY NOVENA IN PREPARATION FOR MERCY SUNDAY



The Lord told me to say this chaplet for nine days before the Feast of Mercy (*Divine Mercy Sunday*). *It is to begin on Good Friday. "By this novena, I will grant every possible grace to souls."* (Diary#796)

Jesus is commanding me to make novena before the Feast of Mercy, and today I am to begin it for the conversion of the whole world and for the recognition of The Divine Mercy... *"so that every soul will praise My goodness. I desire trust from my creatures. Encourage souls to place great trust in My fathomless mercy. Let the weak, sinful soul have no fear to approach Me, for even if it had more sins than there are grains of sand in the world, all would be drowned in the unmeasurable depths of My mercy"* (Diary#1059)

By beginning, these two novenas on Good Friday we would be offering our prayers for the conversion of these souls and we would be showing charity to our fellow brothers and sisters through prayer. \*Refer to pages 13 and 18.

## ALL DIVINE GRACES AVAILABLE ON MERCY SUNDAY

*"All the Divine flood gates of grace are open"*

Jesus did not limit His generosity to this one exceptional grace of complete remission of sin and punishment; He promised to drown us with graces unimaginable.

### Our Lord Speaks:

*"On that day, the very depths of My Mercy are open: I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon souls who will approach the fount of My Mercy... On that day all the Divine Floodgates through which graces flow are opened"* (Diary 258).

All these graces and benefits are accessible on this day to everyone, as long as we ask for them with great trust and love for our God and our neighbor.

## I DEMAND FROM YOU DEEDS OF MERCY

Our Lords words to Saint Faustina about charity: *"I demand from you deeds of mercy which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to your neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to excuse or absolve yourself from it* (Diary#742)... *If a soul does not exercise mercy somehow or other, it will not obtain My mercy on the day of judgment. Oh, if only souls knew how to gather eternal treasure for themselves, they would not be judged, for they would forestall My judgment with their mercy."* (Diary #1317)

*"Without love, deeds, even the most brilliant, count as nothing"* (Saint Therese of Lisieux)

*"For I was hungry, and you gave me food. I was thirsty, and you gave me drink. I was a stranger, and you took me in. Naked and you clothed me. I was sick, and you visited me. I was in prison, and you came to Me... In as much as you have done it to one of the least of these my brethren, you have done it to Me"* (Mathew chapter 25).

How can you say you love God who you can't see and not love your neighbor who you can see?





# DIVINE MERCY IMAGE

On February 22nd, 1931 Jesus appeared to Saint Faustina with rays radiating from His heart and said,

## Our Lord Speaks:

*“Paint an Image according to the pattern you see with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You... I promise that the soul that will venerate this Image will not perish. I also promise victory over its enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I, Myself will defend it as my own glory ( Diary 47, 48)...I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for grace to the Fountain of Mercy (Confession). That vessel is this Image with the Signature, Jesus, I Trust in You. ” (Diary 327)*

## Our Lord Speaks:

“I demand the worship of My mercy through the Solemn Celebration of the Feast (Divine Mercy Sunday) and through the veneration of the Image which is painted.” (Diary 742)

Christ speaks about the image itself as being extremely important. The image itself will be the cause for many miracles.

## Our Lord Speaks:

*“I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature”: Jesus, I trust in You.” (Diary 327)*

## Our Lord Speaks:

*“By means of this Image I shall grant many graces to souls. It is to be a reminder of the demands of My mercy.” (Diary#742)*



The image especially represents the three great sacraments of our church. The red rays represent the blood which was poured out for us. And this blood has become the very flesh of our Lord given to us in the Sacrament of the Eucharist. The pale represents the Sacrament of Baptism, which washes us clean from all sin and makes us sons and daughters of the most High God. **The hand raised in blessings and the white robe (Alb) represents priesthood.** With all priest united to the High Priest Jesus we are healed of sin through the Sacrament of Confession. It shows us that **Christ is always blessing us and offering us forgiveness through His priest.**

Words by Jesus given to Saint Faustina and given to Father Soposko about His Image:

*“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 (German War).

*Recent Revelation on the Mercy of God Devotion including the Novena to the Mercy of God; copyright 1945 by the Congregation of Marian Fathers Eden Hill, Stockbridge, Mass.*





# CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

In 1935, Saint Faustina received a vision of an angel sent by God to chastise a certain city. She began to pray for mercy, but her prayers were powerless. Suddenly she saw the Holy Trinity and felt the power of Jesus' grace within her. At the same time she found herself pleading with God for mercy with words she heard interiorly:

***"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; for the sake of His sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."*** (Diary 476)

As she continued saying this inspired prayer, the angel became helpless and could not carry out the deserved punishment (Diary 474, 475). The next morning when Faustina entered the chapel, she heard these words interiorly:

## Our Lord Speaks:

***"Every time you enter the chapel, immediately recite the prayer which I taught you yesterday"*** (Diary 476).

Then she heard these words from our Lord:

***"This prayer will serve to appease My wrath. You will recite it for nine days on the beads of the rosary in the following manner: First of all, you will say one Our Father and Hail Mary and then the, I Believe in God. 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" (Diary 476).***



God will refuse nothing when you entreat Him with the voice of His Son. Your sacrifice is nothing in itself, but when you join it to the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, it becomes all-powerful and has the power to



appease divine wrath. God loves us in His Son. The painful passion of the Son of God constantly turns aside the wrath of God.

***"O' My Creator and Lord, I feel that I am going to remove the veil of heaven so that earth will not doubt your goodness" (words from Faustina Diary 483)***

## Our Lord Speaks:

***"Encourage souls to say the chaplet which I have given you (1541) ... Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death (Diary 687)... When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as the just judge, but as the merciful Savior (Diary 1541)... Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he***

***were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy (Diary 687)... Through the chaplet, you will obtain everything; If what you ask for is compatible with My will."*** (Diary 1731).

## THE CHAPLET AND IMAGE WILL PROTECT YOUR LOVE ONES ON THERE DEATHBED AGAINST THE DEVILS

Saint Faustina saw a man dying in the midst of terrible torment and struggle. A multitude of devils was waiting for the soul. While praying the chaplet for the soul Saint Faustina saw Jesus as He is depicted in the Image. The rays enveloped the sick man, and the powers of darkness fled in panic. (Diary #1565)

## THE HOLY EUCHARIST

The Holy Eucharist is alive. If a stranger was to come and watch us receive the Eucharist, would the stranger know that?

## Our Lord told Faustina:

***"Oh how painful it is to Me that souls so seldom unite themselves to Me in Holy Communion. I wait for souls and they are indifferent toward Me. I love them tenderly and sincerely and they distrust Me. I want to lavish my graces on them and they do not want to accept them. They treat Me as a dead object where as My heart is full of love and mercy."*** (Diary 1447)

The Eucharist is supposed to be fuel for a new way of life, a new type of living separate of this world. Communion isn't the end. We now become missionaries for Christ. We go out and become Christ to all. Our attitude towards the Eucharist will determine our evangelization to others in the world. It is not enough to discover Christ in the Eucharist. You must bring Him to others. The world is one big mission land.

We need to do something more than just receive Communion. We must become Communion. We must enter into Communion with God. When we receive, we live in Him and He lives in us. ***"Anyone who eats My flesh and drinks My blood, remains in Me and I in him."*** (John: 6:56)





# JURY DUTY AND HEADSHIP IN THE FAMILY

Last week I had one week of jury duty; during the trial I noticed there are five lawyers involved in the trial. The judge is a lawyer as well. Does this mean he is smarter and knows more about the law than the other four? No, those four lawyers Bow down to the judge. The judge has a role to play, and has the final authority. Who is the best lawyer in that room? Is it really the judge? However, the two lawyers recognize the rule and authority of the judge, even though he's just a lawyer as they are.

## Why do they do this?

They do this so that there is an order in the courtroom. You cannot have five judges in the courtroom. Everyone will be screaming and yelling.

There would be complete disorder, just as in a family there has to be order. Somebody has to have the final say so. There has to be an authority figure in the family, especially for the children. There has to be headship, as God so clearly stated in Scripture.

**(1 Corinthians 11:3)** But I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man,[a] and the head of Christ is God.)

**(Eph 5:22-23)** Wives, submit yourselves to your own husband's as you do to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, His body, of which he is the Savior.

**Jesus gave His life and was a servant to the church and so must the husband do the same for his wife.**

**Now we can see why families are being destroyed.** It's because God's order of the husband's headship is neither being establish nor maintained. On the contrary it is been destroyed. Suppose the wife does not want this. The woman may say "I do want a holy husband", but he is incompetent and does not know how to run a family. The man throws his hands up, because no matter what he does, it is wrong, or not good enough. His instructions to the children and to the wife are undercut, and there is no obedience with the children to the father. His authority in the family is laughable because of the rebellion and treason of his wife to God's law.



The man really thinks to himself; she really wants to be both husband and wife, and reduce me to a child or a puppet. Does she not understand my role in the family? When the husband gives up trying to lead the family, then the wife gets upset. He starts to become a child, a sinner, alcoholic, adulterous, etc. So the woman loses a strong man and a strong husband, and the children lose a strong father, because she is not willing to follow God's clear command.

The family structure becomes one that is contrary to God's will. The children have no firm guidance. They become ping pong balls between the parents.

**What is the father's role in the family based upon?**

**It is based upon service;** Leadership, getting all of his family members to heaven. **He's not a bully,** he's a servant for Jesus. As Jesus washed His disciple's feet so must the husband bow down and wash the feet of his wife and children. He must be willing to **give up everything for their salvation.** This is true headship, service to those you love. When the husband becomes a servant then the role of the wife becomes very clear to her and she no longer wants to become the man of the house, she wants to become the love and heart of the house.

## Men of God

Get off your phones, get off your couch and be the man God has called you to be. Our woman and

youth of the world are waiting for you. You want change in your wife; you are the change needed to save the world.

**How to begin the healing?** Slowly through prayer; if I may suggest to begin with a Our Father or Hail Mary daily, first husband and wife, then with the children. Or maybe one small Bible verse a night. And later try one decade of the rosary, begin very slow and let prayer become a joy not a burden. Husband this is a good opportunity to take the role as headship and show your family that for now on you will be the servant that God has called you to be.

***"The final battle between the Lord and the reign of Satan will be about marriage and the family. Don't be afraid because anyone who works for the sanctity of marriage and the family will always be fought and opposed in every way, because this is the decisive issue. However, Our Lady has already crushed its head."*** Sister Lucia of Fatima to Cardinal Carlo Caffara (Archbishop of Bologna)

Copyright Excerpts taken from "Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska: Divine Mercy in my Soul"

© 1987 Congregation of Marians of the Immaculate Conception, Stockbridge, MA 01263 All rights reserved; reprinted with permission. Pages 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 and 20.

Excerpts taken from "Medjugorje THE LAST APPARITION" by Wayne Weible; page 1,2,3,4,5,6,7

Excerpts taken from "The Secret of the Rosary" by St. Louis De Montfort; page 78

Scripture quotations from the St. Joseph New American Bible.

This publication was reviewed by Father William Deville to assure that it does not contain errors pertaining to faith, morals, and Catholic doctrine.

Copy of the Vilnius image, original image restored by Life Foundation © 1997, all rights reserved. Since the abolition of code 1399 and 2318 of the former canonical code, publication about new appearances, revelations, prophecies, miracles etc., have been allowed to be distributed, and read by the faithful, providing they contain nothing which contravenes faith and morals. This means no imprimatur is necessary in the distribution of this paper. All writings were reviewed by Father Deville who is the spiritual adviser for the Laity for Mercy. He is in agreement that there is nothing against faith and morals in these writings. the Laity For Mercy wish to manifest unconditional submission to the final and official judgment of the magisterium of the church regarding any events under investigation.





# SOUL YOU ARE NOT YET LOST



Damnation is for the soul who wants to be damned; but for the one who desires salvation, there is the inexhaustible ocean of the Lord's mercy to draw from. (Diary of Saint Faustina 631)

## Conversation of the Merciful God with a Sinful Soul

### *Our Lord Speaks:*

**"Be not afraid of your Savior, O sinful soul. I make the first move to come to you, for I know that by yourself you are unable to lift yourself to Me. Child, do not run away from your Father; be willing to talk openly with your God of mercy who wants to speak words of pardon and lavish His graces on you. How dear your soul is to Me! I have inscribed your name upon My hands; you are engraved as a deep wound in My heart."** (Diary 1485)

Soul: Lord, I hear your voice calling me to turn back from the path of sin, but I have neither the strength nor the courage to do so.

### *Our Lord Speaks:*

**"I am your strength, I will help you in the struggle."**

Soul: Lord, I recognize your holiness, and I fear you.

### *Our Lord Speaks:*

**"My child, do you fear the God of mercy? My holiness (80) does not prevent Me from being merciful.**

**Behold, for you I have established a throne of mercy on earth - the tabernacle - and from this throne I desire to enter into your heart. I am not surrounded by a retinue of guards. You can come to Me at any moment, at any time; I want to speak to you and desire to grant you grace."**

Soul: Lord, I doubt that you will pardon My numerous sins; my misery fills me with fright.

### *Our Lord Speaks:*

**"My mercy is greater than your sins and those of the entire world. Who can measure the extent of My goodness? For you I descended from heaven to earth; for you I allowed Myself to be nailed to the cross; for you I let My sacred heart be pierced with a lance, thus opening wide the source of mercy for you. Come, then, with trust to draw graces from this fountain. I never reject a contrite heart. Your misery has disappeared in the depths of My mercy. Do not argue with Me about your wretchedness. You will give Me pleasure if you hand over to Me all your troubles and griefs. I shall heap upon you the treasures of My grace."** (Diary 1485)

## Conversation of the Merciful God with a Despairing Soul

### *Our Lord Speaks:*

**"O soul steeped in darkness, do not despair. All is not yet lost. Come and confide in your God, who is love and mercy."** (Diary 1486)

But the soul, deaf even to this appeal, wraps itself in, Jesus calls out again:

Jesus: **My child, listen to the voice of your merciful Father.**

### *In the soul arises this reply:*

"For me there is no mercy," and it falls into greater darkness, a despair which is a foretaste of hell and makes it unable to draw near to God.

Jesus calls to the soul a third time, but the soul remains deaf and blind, hardened and despairing. Then the mercy of God begins to exert itself, and, without any co-operation from the soul, God grants it final grace. If this too is spurned, God will leave the soul in this self-chosen disposition for eternity.

### *Our Lord Speaks:*

**"What joy fills My heart when you return to Me. Because you are weak, I take you in My arms and carry you to the home of My Father."**





# SOUL YOU ARE NOT YET LOST



Soul: (as if awakening, asks fearfully): Is it possible that there yet is mercy for me?

## ***Our Lord Speaks:***

**“There is, My child. You have a special claim on My mercy. Let it act in your poor soul; let the rays of grace enter your soul; then bring with them light, warmth, and life.”**

Soul: But fear fills me at the thought of my sins, and this terrible fear moves me to doubt your goodness.

## ***Our Lord Speaks:***

**“My child, all your sins have not wounded My heart as painfully as your present lack of trust does -that after so many efforts of My love and mercy, you should still doubt My goodness.” (Diary 1486)**

Soul: O Lord, save me yourself, for I perish. Be my Savior, O Lord. I am unable to say anything more; my pitiful heart is torn asunder; but You, O Lord...

Jesus does not let the soul finish but, raising it from the ground, from the depths of its misery, He leads it into the recesses of His heart where all its sins disappear in-

stantly, consumed by the flames of love.

## ***Our Lord Speaks:***

**“Here, soul, are the treasures of My heart. Take everything you need from it.” (Diary 1486)**

## ***Our Lord Speaks:***

**“Tell Me all, My child, hide nothing from Me because My loving heart, the heart of your best friend, is listening to you... Do not be absorbed in your misery—you are still too weak to speak of it— but, rather, gaze on My heart filled with goodness, and be imbued with My sentiments. Strive for meekness and humility; be merciful to others, as I am to you; and, when you feel your strength failing, if you come to the fountain of mercy to fortify your soul, you will not grow weary on your journey.” (Diary 1486)**

## **A Compassionate, Loving Church is Waiting for You**

*I would now like to say a special word to women who have had an abortion. The Church is aware of the many factors which may have influenced your decision, and she does not doubt that in many cases it was a painful and even shattering decision. The wound in your heart may not yet*

*have healed. Certainly what happened was and remains terribly wrong. But do not give in to discouragement and do not lose hope. Try rather to understand what happened and face it honestly. If you have not already done so, give yourselves over with humility and trust to repentance. The Father of mercies is ready to give you His forgiveness and His peace in the Sacrament of Reconciliation. You will come to understand that nothing is definitively lost and you will also be able to ask forgiveness from your child, who is now living in the Lord. With the friendly and expert help and advice of other people, and as a result of your own painful experience, you can be among the most eloquent defenders of everyone's right to life.*

For all of you who have been affected by abortion, please fight to stop this crime against God and man. Spread God's love and mercy to a hurting people.

There are many post-abortion healing ministries out there but we recommend:

**Rachel's Vineyard** (877) 467-3463 and **Bethesda Healing Ministies** (614) 309-2651 if you need a loving voice to talk to. (Life Foundation is a non affiliate of Rachel's Vineyard and Bethesda.)



# Preparation for Confession

## What is the Sacrament of Penance (Reconciliation)?

Penance is a Sacrament in which the sins committed after Baptism are forgiven. It is a Sacrament of healing from our wounds of sins. It also should help you receive the knowledge on how to avoid all sin. This Sacrament was instituted by Christ to His Apostles to be passed on to each generation (John 20:21) (Matthew 16:18) through the ministerial priesthood.

### Prayer before Confession

O Holy Spirit, source of all light, come to my assistance and enable me to make a good confession. Enlighten me, and help me to know my sins as one day I shall be forced to recognize them before Christ's judgment seat. Bring to my mind the evil which I have done and the good which I have neglected. Grant me, moreover, heartfelt sorrow for my sins, and the grace of a sincere confession, so that I may be forgiven and brought into your everlasting friendship. Mary, my Mother, pray for me to make a good confession. (Hail Mary, 3 times)

## EXAMINATION OF CONSCIENCE

### The Ten Commandments

#### 1) I am the Lord thy God; thou shalt not have strange Gods before me.

The first commandment forbids the worship of false gods, belief in fortune tellers or astrology. We sin against the first commandment by putting anyone or anything in God's place, such as sports, TV, humans, food, material goods, Internet, radio, sex, alcohol, drugs. By failing to show respect for persons, places and things related especially to God, by atheism, heresy and schism, and by missing Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation. This, too, involves neglecting to learn the truths about God, leaving God's Catholic Church, (when we have believed it is completely faithful in teaching God's truths to show all men God's salvation). We show great honor to God's name by invoking Him with reverence in our prayers and worship.

#### 2) Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.

The second commandment forbids all false, rash, unjust and unnecessary oaths, blasphemy, cursing and profane words (e.g. cussing, damning God's holy name).

#### 3) Remember, thou keep holy the Sabbath.

The third commandment obliges us to hear Mass on Sundays and Holy Days of Obligation, forbids all unnecessary servile work on Sunday. By resting from our usual work, we find it easier to join with family members and other Christians in making Sunday a day of celebration.

#### 4) Honor thy Father and Mother.

The fourth commandment forbids all disobedience, contempt and stubbornness towards our parents or lawful superiors, (e.g. talking back to parents and teachers, being disobedient to all authority unless sin is involved). We show our love for our neighbor when we obey all lawful authority whether it be at home, in civil society, or in the church. Even authority of civil government comes from God. St. Paul wrote: "Let every soul be subject to higher powers, for there is no power but from God. And those that are, are ordained by God. (Romans 13: 1-2).

#### 5) Thou shalt not kill.

The fifth commandment forbids all willful murder, fighting, anger, hatred, revenge, bad example, abortion and unlawful birth control. Christ came to give us life, not take it. All followers of Christ should oppose whatever tends to destroy or abuse human life: murder, suicide, abortion, mercy killing, drug abuse, drunkenness, fighting, and anger. "Whoever hates his brother is a murderer." (1 John 3:15)

#### 6) Thou shalt not commit adultery.

#### 7) Thou shalt not steal.

It is sinful to be selfishly apathetic towards others in need, to violate the rights of others, to steal, to deliberately damage others good name or property, to cheat, to not pay one's debt, or to unjustly discriminate another.

#### 8) Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

The eighth commandment forbids all rash judgment, back-biting, slander, gossip and lies. Exaggerating about another's faults, telling tales about them or damaging a person's reputation is all a sin against the eighth commandment. "To

speak evil of no man, not to be litigious, but gentle: showing all mildness towards all men.) (Titus 3: 1-2)

#### 9) Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife.

The sixth and the ninth commandments forbid unchaste thoughts or desires on another's

husband or wife; all impurity and immodesty in words, looks, thoughts, entertainment, actions, the clothes you wear. The use of the sexual faculty is a right and privilege of those validly married. Therefore, adultery, fornication (sex before marriage), masturbation, pornography, indecent entertainment, acts of impurity and a fully deliberate desire to commit these acts is all seriously wrong and a sin against the sixth and ninth commandment. "But I say to you, that whoever shall look on a woman to lust after her has already committed adultery with her in his heart." (Matthew 5: 27-28)

#### 10) Thou shalt not covet thy neighbors goods.

The tenth commandment forbids all desires to take or keep wrongfully what belongs to another. All of the goods of this world come from the good God. He has put more than enough of them at the disposal of men. The material goods that God gives us are not for ourselves alone. He gave them to be shared

with the less fortunate, especially those in desperate need. Other sins against the tenth commandment are - fraud, damaging property of another, not paying debt, not making an effort to find the owner of a material you found, depriving a laborer of just wage, wasting time and money, depriving the family the money needed by wasting it on gambling, drinking and all kinds of foolish needs.

### The Seven Capital Sins

Pride, covetousness, lust, anger, gluttony, envy and sloth.

### What is necessary to make a good Confession?

- A) Examination of Conscience
- B) Confess all sins, even venial sins
- C) Sorrow of sin (not wanting to commit the same sin ever again)
- D) Firm resolution never more to offend God
- E) Confess our sins to a priest. (Tell all of the mortal sins you have committed and how many times that you can remember).
- F) Say the penance which the priest gives us.

### Method of Confessing

Enter the Confessional, start with the sign of the Cross, with a moderate low voice -- Say: Bless me Father for I have sinned. I confess to Almighty God, and to you Father. It is (how long) since my last Confession.

Tell all your sins. Listen to the priest, answer all questions. Pay attention to the penance given. While the priest recites Absolution, say your Act of Contrition. "And go and sin no more."

### Act of Contrition

O My God, I am heartily sorry for having offended you, because I dread the loss of heaven and the pains of hell, but most of all because I have offended you who art so good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve with the help of your grace, to confess my sins, to do penance and to amend my life. Amen.

*What does it profit a man if he gain the whole world, but suffer the loss of his own soul.*





# Nine Day Novena to the Divine Mercy

On Good Friday, 1937, Jesus requested that Saint Faustina make a special novena. He Himself dictated the intentions for each day. By means of this specific prayer she was to bring to His heart a different group of souls each day and thus immerse them in the ocean of His mercy. Since Saint Faustina was commanded to write it down our Lord must have intended the novena to be used by others, not only in preparation for the Feast of Mercy but at other times as well.

## Day One

“Today bring to Me all mankind, especially all sinners, and immerse them in the ocean of My Mercy, In this way, you console Me, in the bitter grief into which the loss of souls plunges me.”

## Day Two

“Today bring Me the souls of priests and religious and immerse them in My unfathomable Mercy. It was they who gave Me strength to endure My bitter Passion. Through them as through channels My Mercy flows out upon mankind.”



## Day Three

“Today bring to Me all devout and faithful souls and immerse them in the ocean of My Mercy. These souls brought Me consolation on the Way of the Cross. They were that drop of consolation in the midst of an ocean of bitterness.”

## Day Four

“Today bring to Me the pagans and those who do not yet know Me. I was thinking of them also during My bitter Passion, and their future zeal comforted My Heart. Immerse them in the ocean of My Mercy.”

## Day Five

“Today bring to Me the souls of the separated brethren and immerse them in the ocean of My Mercy. During My bitter Passion they tore at My Body and Heart, that is, My Church. As they turn to unity with the Church My Wounds heal, and in this way alleviate My Passion.”

## Day Six

“Today bring to Me the meek and humble souls of little children, and immerse them in My Mercy. These souls most closely resemble My Heart. They strengthened Me during My bitter agony. I saw them as earthly angels, who will keep vigils at My altars. I pour out upon them whole torrents of Grace. Only the humble soul is able to receive My Grace. I favor humble souls with My confidence.”

## Day Seven

“Today bring to Me the souls who especially venerate and glorify My mercy and immerse them in My mercy. These souls sorrowed most over My passion and entered most deeply into My spirit. They are living images of My compassionate heart. These souls will shine with a special brightness in the next life. Not one of them will go into the fire of hell. I shall particularly defend each one of them at the hour of death.”

## Day Eight

“Today bring to Me those souls who are in the prison of Purgatory and immerse them in the abyss of My Mercy. Let the torrents of My Blood cool down their scorching flames. They are making retribution to My justice. It is in your power to bring them relief. Draw all the indulgences from the treasury of My Church and offer them on their behalf. Oh, if you only knew the torments they suffer, you would continually offer for them the alms of the spirit and pay off their debt to my justice.”

## Day Nine

“Today bring to Me souls who have become lukewarm and immerse them in the abyss of My Mercy. These souls wound My Heart most painfully. My soul suffered the most dreadful loathing in the Garden of Olives, because of lukewarm souls. They were the reason I cried out: Father, take this cup away from Me, if it be Your will. For them, the last hope of salvation is to flee to My Mercy.” (Diary 1210-1228)



# APOSTOLIC PENITENTIARY DECREE:

## Indulgences Attached to Devotion in Honor of Divine Mercy

### Plenary Indulgence

To ensure that the faithful would observe this day with intense devotion, the Supreme Pontiff himself established that this Sunday be enriched by a plenary indulgence, as will be explained below, so that the faithful might receive in great abundance the gift of the consolation of the Holy Spirit. In this way, they can foster a growing love for God and for their neighbor, and after they have obtained God's pardon, they in turn might be persuaded to show a prompt pardon to their brothers and sisters.

### Pardon of others who sin against us

Thus the faithful will more closely conform to the spirit of the Gospel, receiving in their hearts the renewal that the Second Vatican Council explained and introduced: "Mindful of the words of the Lord: 'By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another' (Jn 13,35), Christians can yearn for nothing more ardently than to serve the men of this age with an ever growing generosity and success.... It is the Father's will that we should recognize Christ our brother in the persons of all men and love them with an effective love, in word and in deed (Pastoral Constitution, ".../.../archive/hist\_councils/ii\_vatican\_council/documents/vat-ii\_cons\_19651207\_eaudium-et-spes\_en.html". n. 93).

### Three conditions for the plenary indulgence

And so the Supreme Pontiff, motivated by an ardent desire to foster in Christians this devotion to Divine Mercy as much as possible in the hope of offering great spiritual fruit to the faithful, in the Audience granted on 13 June 2002, to those Responsible for the Apostolic Penitentiary, granted the following Indulgences:

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 honour 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 (e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in you!));

A partial indulgence, granted to the faithful who, at least with a contrite heart, pray to the merciful Lord Jesus a legiti-

*And after they have obtained God's pardon, they in turn might be persuaded to show a prompt pardon to their brothers and sisters*

*"By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:35)*

mately approved invocation.

### For those who cannot go to church or the seriously ill

In addition, sailors working on the vast expanse of the sea; the countless brothers and sisters, whom the disasters of war, political events, local violence and other such causes have been driven out of their homeland; the sick and those who nurse them, and all who for a just cause cannot leave their homes or who carry out an activity for the community which cannot be postponed, may obtain a plenary indulgence on Divine Mercy Sunday, if totally detesting any sin, as has been said before, and with the intention of fulfilling as soon as possible the three usual conditions, will recite the Our Father and the Creed before a devout image of Our Merciful Lord Jesus and, in addition, pray a devout invocation to the Merciful Lord Jesus (e.g. Merciful Jesus, I trust in you).



**Divine Mercy**, with the dignity that is in accord with the rite, they should lead the recitation of the prayers that have been given above. Finally, "Blessed are the merciful."

### JOHN PAUL II MISSION OF MERCY

In 1938, after Saint Faustina's death, this devotion spread like wildfire and this endured during the horrors the Polish people faced of World War II. At the front lines of this revelation stood a young Polish priest, Karol Josef Wojtyla.

Opposing forces tried to prevent the spreading of these holy revelations and Holy Mother Church with her prudence regarding unproved and uninvestigated spiritual occurrences.

Pope John XXIII and the Vatican, received erroneous, confusing translations of the Diary of Sister Faustina.

Consequently, The Holy See silenced it, and this in itself was prophesied by Saint Faustina. Twenty years later, by the great efforts of then Bishop Wojtyla, Pope Paul VI lifted the Vatican's ban. Our future Polish Pope dedicated himself to completing an accurate translation of *Sister Faustina's Diary*. It is an understatement to say his persistent influence singularly affected the approval of Christ revelations and this woman of Poland's Holy Journal.

The devotion to Divine Mercy was brought to America by Father Jarzebowski of the Immaculate Conception. With the forces of the Third Reichs Nazi regiments surrounding Poland and threatening an invasion, this faithful priest entrusted himself to Divine Mercy and safely smuggled Sister Faustina's writings across enemy lines and through his long journey into America.

Father Jarzebowski vowed to Father Michael Sopoko, Sister Faustina's spiritual director, that he would reproduce and distribute materials on Divine Mercy in America. With the help of the Saint Stanislaus Kostka province of the Marians, they started to actively proclaim, print and produce material on the Divine Mercy devotion. When the Vatican's ban was issued on Sister Faustina's writings, the Marians obediently ceased promoting the Divine Mercy devotion.

When Pope Paul VI lifted the ban on the diary, they immediately began promoting the devotion. On April 15, 1978, Cardinal Wojtyla became Pope John Paul II.

If it is impossible that people do even this, on the same day they may obtain the Plenary Indulgence if with a spiritual intention they are united with those carrying out the prescribed practice for obtaining the Indulgence in the usual way and offer to the Merciful Lord a prayer and the sufferings of their illness and the difficulties of their lives, with the resolution to accomplish as soon as possible the three conditions prescribed to obtain the plenary indulgence.

### Duty of priests: inform parishioners, hear confessions, lead prayers

Priests who exercise pastoral ministry, especially parish priests, should inform the faithful in the most suitable way of the Church's salutary provision. **They should promptly and generously be willing to hear their confessions. On Divine Mercy Sunday, after celebrating Mass or Vespers, or during devotions in honour of**



# The Devils and the Rosary



When Saint Dominic was preaching the Rosary near Carcassone an Albigensian was brought to him who is possessed by devils. Saint Dominic exorcized him in the presence of a crowd of over 12,000 that day who came to hear him preach on the rosary.

Saint Dominic put his rosary around the man's neck and asked the devils to tell him who, of all the saints in heaven, was the one they feared the most? And who should therefore be the most loved and revered by man. At this they let out such an earthly scream that most of the people fell to the ground, faint from fear.

Then, using all their cunning, so as not to answer, the devils wept and cried in such a pitiful way.

**"Dominic, Dominic, have pity on us-we promise you that we will never hurt you."**

***Nobody who perseveres in saying the rosary will be damned.***

Saint Dominic was not one bit moved by these evil spirits and told them that he would not let them alone until they answered his questions. They used all there deceitful and cunning Ways not to answer this question.

Saint Dominic knelt down and praying to our lady asks for her intercession.

She appeared to Saint Dominic and answered his prayer;

**Then the devils starting screaming,**

***"Oh you who are our enemy, our downfall in***

***our distraction, why have you come from heaven just to torture us grievously?***

***Then listen well, you Christians: The mother of Jesus cries is all powerful and she can save her servants from falling into hell. She's the sun which destroys the darkness of our Wiles and subtlety. It is she who uncovers our hidden plots, breaks our snares and makes our temptations useless and ineffectual... now that we are forced to speak we must also tell you this: nobody who perseveres in saying the rosary will be damned, because she's obtains for her servants the grace of truth contrition for their sins by means of this they obtain God's forgiveness and mercy"***

***Excerpts taken from "The Secret of the Rosary" by St. Louis De Montfort; page 78.***