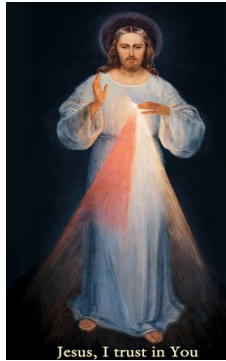


Divine Mercy Sunday

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

THE HOUR OF MERCY



Sacred Heart Catholic Church



Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

O Salutaris

#162

Please Sit

Introduction

Reader 1

As often as you hear the clock strike the third hour, immerse yourself completely in My mercy, adoring and glorifying it; invoke its omnipotence for the whole world, and particularly for poor sinners; for at that moment mercy was opened wide for every soul. This is the hour of great mercy for the whole world.

It is Jesus' desire that the moment of His Death on the Cross (3:00 p.m.) be venerated every day; the hour which He said was *the hour of grace for the whole world – mercy triumphed over justice*. At this hour, He wants us to meditate upon His sorrowful Passion because it reveals most distinctly the love God has for His people. At this time Jesus wants us to worship and glorify the Mercy of God, and, by the merits of His passion, to implore the necessary graces for ourselves and the whole world, especially for sinners.

Try your best, Jesus instructed Sister Faustina, to make the Stations of the Cross in this hour, provided that your duties permit it; and if you are not able to make the Stations of the Cross, then at least step into the chapel for a moment and adore, in the Blessed Sacrament, My heart, which is full of mercy; and should you be unable to step into the chapel, immerse yourself in prayer there where you happen to be, if only for a very brief instant.

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This is the hour, as Jesus promised, on which you can obtain everything for yourself and for others for the asking. I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion.

The Hour of Mercy is associated explicitly with three o'clock in the afternoon. Our prayers at this time should be directed to Jesus, and our petitions should appeal to the merits of His sorrowful Passion.

Veneration of Image

Kneel.

Process up as for Communion.

Everyone is invited to come forward to venerate the image. Please bow.

“The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous; the red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the depths of My most tender Mercy at that time when My agonizing Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross...Fortunate is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold on him.”

Reader 1

The Essence of the Divine Mercy Devotion

1. **Trust** expresses the disposition we should have toward God. It includes not only the virtue of hope, but also a lively faith, humility, perseverance and remorse for sins committed. It is simply the attitude of a child who trusts boundlessly in the merciful love and omnipotence of the Heavenly Father in every situation. Trust is so essential to the Divine Mercy devotion that without it the devotion cannot exist; this is because our worship of the Divine Mercy is first and foremost an expression of trust. An attitude of trust alone (even without the practice of other forms of the devotion) already assures the trusting soul of grace that will receive God's mercy.

I desire, Jesus promised, to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My mercy. Let them approach this sea of mercy with great trust. Sinners will attain justification, and the just will be confirmed in good. Whoever places his trust in My mercy will be filled with My divine peace at the hour of death.

Trust is not only the essence or soul of this devotion, but also the condition for obtaining graces.

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The graces of mercy, Jesus told Sister Faustina, are drawn by means of one vessel only, and that is – trust. The more a soul trusts, the more it will receive. Souls that trust boundlessly are a great comfort to Me, because I pour all the treasures of My graces into them. I rejoice that they ask for much, because it is My desire to give much, very much. The soul which will trust in My mercy is most fortunate, because I Myself take care of it. No soul that has called upon My Mercy has been disappointed or brought to shame. I delight particularly in a soul which has placed its trust in My goodness.

2. **Mercy** expresses the disposition we should have towards every human being.

Jesus told Sister Faustina, I demand...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. I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy toward your neighbor: the first – by deed, the second- by word, the third- by prayer. In these three degrees is contained the fullness of mercy and it is an unquestionable proof of love for Me. By this means a soul glorifies and pays reverence to My Mercy.

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This attitude of an active love of neighbor is also a condition of obtaining graces.

Jesus recalled the Gospel maxim when He said, *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.* The Lord desires that those who worship Him perform at least one act of mercy every day. *My daughter, Jesus told Sister Faustina, know that My Heart is mercy itself. From this sea of mercy, graces flow out upon the whole world...I desire that your heart be an abiding place of My mercy. I desire that this mercy flow out upon the whole world through your heart. Let no one who approaches you go away without that trust in My mercy which I do ardently desire for souls.*

Reader 2

Prayers at the Hour of Mercy **(*Bold text is for all to recite together*)**

Sit

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You.

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You Yourself, Jesus, surely out of love for us, underwent such a terrible Passion. Your Father's justice would have been propitiated with a single sigh from You, and all Your self-abasement is solely the work of Your mercy and Your inconceivable love...At the end of Your death on the Cross, You bestowed upon us eternal life; allowing Your most holy side to be opened, You opened an inexhaustible spring of mercy for us, giving us Your dearest possession, the Blood and Water from Your Heart. such is the omnipotence of Your mercy. From it all graces flows to us.

All recite
Bold
type

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You.

O Jesus, eternal Truth, our Life, I call upon You and beg Your mercy for poor sinners. O sweetest Heart of my Lord, full of pity and unfathomable mercy, I plead with you for poor sinners. O Most Sacred Heart, Fount of Mercy from which gush forth rays of inconceivable graces upon the entire human race, I beg of You light for poor sinners. O Jesus, be mindful of Your own bitter Passion and do not permit the loss of souls redeemed at so dear a price of Your most precious Blood.

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All recite bold
type

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You.

O Jesus, when I consider the great price of Your Blood, I rejoice at its immensity, for one drop alone would have been enough for the salvation of all sinners. Oh, what immense joy burns in my heart when I contemplate Your incomprehensible goodness, O Jesus! I desire to bring all sinners to Your feet that they may glorify Your mercy throughout endless ages.

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You.

O Jesus, stretched out upon the cross, I implore You, give me the grace of doing faithfully the most holy will of Your Father, in all things, always and everywhere. And when this will of God will seem to me very harsh and difficult to fulfill, it is then I beg You, Jesus, may power and strength flow upon me from your wounds, and may my lips keep repeating, "Your will be done, O Lord".

All recite
Bold type

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You.

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O Savior of the world, Lover of man's salvation, who in such terrible torment and pain, forgot Yourself to think only of the salvation of souls, O most compassionate Jesus, grant in the grace to forget myself that I may live totally for souls, helping You in the work of salvation, according to the most holy will of Your Father.

All ***O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You.***

You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. I Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

All ***O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You.***

Intercessions

Merciful Lord, I want to be completely transformed into Your mercy and to be Your living reflection, O Lord. May the greatest of all divine attributes, that of Your unfathomable mercy, pass through my heart and soul to my neighbor.

All ***Be merciful, O Lord!***

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Help me, O Lord, that my eyes may be merciful, so that I may never suspect or judge from appearances, but look for what is beautiful in my neighbor's souls and come to their rescue.

All

Be merciful, O Lord!

Help me, that my ears may be merciful, so that I may give heed to my neighbors' needs and not be indifferent to their pains and moanings.

All

Be merciful, O Lord!

Help me, O Lord, that my tongue may be merciful, so that I should never speak negatively of my neighbor, but have a word of comfort and forgiveness for all.

All

Be merciful, O Lord!

Help me, O Lord, that my hands may be merciful and filled with good deeds, so that I may do only good to my neighbors and take upon myself the more difficult and toilsome tasks.

All

Be merciful, O Lord!

Help me, that my feet may be merciful, so that I may hurry to assist my neighbor, overcoming my own fatigue and weariness. My true rest is in the service of my neighbor.

All

Be merciful, O Lord!

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Help me, O Lord, that my heart may be merciful so that I myself may feel all the sufferings of my neighbor. I will refuse my heart to no one. I will be sincere even with those who, I know, will abuse my kindness. And I will lock myself up in the most merciful Heart of Jesus. I will bear my own suffering in silence. May Your mercy, O Lord, rest upon me.

All

Be merciful, O Lord!

O my Jesus, transform me into Yourself, for you can do all things.

All

Be merciful, O Lord!

Priest Let us pray:

God, who in Your mercy have deigned to call man from nothingness into being, generously have You bestowed upon him nature and grace. But that seemed too little for Your infinite goodness. In Your mercy, O Lord, You have given us everlasting life. You admit us to Your everlasting happiness and grant us to share in Your interior life. And You do this solely out of Your mercy. You bestow on us the gift of Your grace, only because You are good and full of love.

You had no need of us at all to be happy but You, O

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Lord, want to share Your own happiness with us. But man did not stand the test. You could have punished him, like the angels, with eternal rejection, but here Your mercy appeared, and the very depths of Your being were moved with great compassion, and You promised to restore our salvation. It is an incomprehensible abyss of Your compassion that You did not punish us as we deserved. May Your mercy be glorified, O Lord; we will praise it for endless ages. And the angels were amazed at the greatness of the mercy which You have shown for mankind...

Amen.

Litany of Divine Mercy

Reader 2

Divine Mercy, gushing forth from the bosom of the Father, (All) ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, greatest attribute of GOD,
(All) ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, incomprehensible mystery,
(All) ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, fountain gushing forth from the mystery of the Most Blessed Trinity, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, unfathomed by any intellect, human or angelic, (All) ***I trust in You.***

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Divine Mercy, from which wells forth all life and happiness, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, better than the heavens, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, source of miracles and wonders, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, encompassing the whole universe, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, descending to earth in the Person of the Incarnate Word, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, which flowed out from the open wound of the Heart of Jesus, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, enclosed in the Heart of JESUS for us, and especially for sinners, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, unfathomed in the institution of the Sacred Host, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, in the founding of Holy Church, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, in our justification through JESUS CHRIST, ***I trust in You.***

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Divine Mercy, embracing us especially at the hour of death, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, endowing us with immortal life, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, accompanying us every moment of our life, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, shielding us from the fire of hell, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, in the conversion of hardened sinners, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, astonishment for Angels, incomprehensible to Saints, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, unfathomed in all the mysteries of GOD, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, lifting us out of every misery, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, source of our happiness and joy, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, in calling us forth from nothingness to existence, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, embracing all the works of His hands, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, crown of all of God's handiwork, ***I trust in You.***

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Divine Mercy, in which we are all immersed, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, sweet relief for anguished hearts, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, only hope of despairing souls, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, repose of hearts, peace amidst fear, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, delight and ecstasy of holy souls, ***I trust in You.***

Divine Mercy, inspiring hope against all hope, ***I trust in You.***

Let us pray:

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.

Reader 2

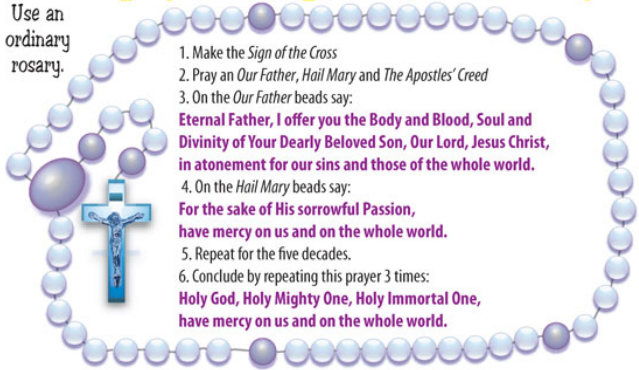
Chaplet of the Divine Mercy

Our Lord said to Sister Faustina:
Unceasingly recite this chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death...Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even the most hardened sinner, if he recites this chaplet even once, will receive grace from My infinite mercy. Encourage souls to say the Chaplet which I have given to you ...Oh, what great graces I will grant to souls who will recite this chaplet ...Through the chaplet you will obtain anything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will ...I want the whole world to know My infinite mercy. I want to give unimaginable graces to those who trust in My mercy. At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony. This is the hour greatest mercy...In this hour I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion.

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How to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Use an ordinary rosary.



1. Make the *Sign of the Cross*
2. Pray an *Our Father*, *Hail Mary* and *The Apostles' Creed*
3. On the *Our Father* beads say:
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.
4. On the *Hail Mary* beads say:
For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
5. Repeat for the five decades.
6. Conclude by repeating this prayer 3 times:
Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Reader 2
Please
kneel

L+ Leader **A** +Assembly

Kneel

+In the Name of the Father, And the Son, And the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Opening Prayer

L 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 fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!

OUR FATHER

L- Our Father, Who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy Will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. A- 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. Amen.

HAIL MARY

L- Hail Mary, Full of Grace, The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. A- Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now, and at the hour of death. Amen.

Apostles CREED

L- 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

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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. A- 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.

Please
Sing

ON EACH OF THE SINGLE BEADS

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

ON EACH OF THE DECADE BEADS

L- For the sake of his sorrowful Passion, A- have mercy on us and on the whole world.

AFTER 5 DECADE , PRAY 3 TIMES:

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

Closing Prayer

Reader 2

ALL-O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You! 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.

+In the Name of the Father, And the Son, And the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Come Adore/Tantum Ergo

#164

STAND

Priest:

Let us pray: Lord Jesus Christ, you gave us the Eucharist as the memorial of your suffering and death. May our worship of this sacrament of your Body and Blood help us to experience the salvation you won for us and the peace of the kingdom where you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

All: ***Amen***

Benediction

Blessed be God.

Blessed by 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 Christ in the Most Holy Sacrament
of the Altar.***

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Consoler.

Blessed be the 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.

Closing hymn

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You #611

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Saint Sister Faustina was born Helena Kowalska in a small village west of Lodz Poland on August 25, 1905. She was the third of ten children. When she was almost twenty, she entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, whose members devote themselves to the care and education of troubled young women. The following year she received her religious habit and was given the name Sister Maria Faustina, to which she added, “of the Most Blessed Sacrament”, as was permitted by her congregation’s custom. In the 1930’s Sister Faustina received from the Lord a message of mercy that she was told to spread throughout the world. She had the visions of the Merciful Jesus, who asked her: “Paint my image.” Soon the artist painted the picture of risen Lord with two rays outgoing from his heart and with signature: *Jesus, I trust in You*, according to the vision of Jesus which Sister Faustina had many times. She was asked to become the apostle and secretary of God’s mercy, a model of how to be merciful to others, and an instrument for reemphasizing God’s plan of mercy for the world. It was not a glamorous prospect.

Her entire life, in imitation of Christ’s, was to be a sacrifice – a life lived for others. At the Divine Lord’s request, she willingly offered her personal sufferings in union with Him to atone for the sins of others; in her daily life she was to become a doer of mercy, bringing joy and peace to others, and by writing about God’s mercy, she was to encourage others to trust in Him and thus prepare the world for His coming again. Her special devotion to Merciful Jesus gave her the strength to bear all her sufferings as an offering to God on behalf of the Church and those in special need, especially great sinners and the dying.

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She wrote and suffered in secret, with only her spiritual director and some of her superiors aware that anything special was taking place in her life. After her death from tuberculosis in 1938, even her closest associates were amazed as they began to discover what great sufferings and deep mystical experiences had been given to this Sister of theirs, who had always been so cheerful and humble. She had taken deeply into her heart, God's gospel command to "be merciful even as your heavenly Father is merciful" as well as her confessor's directive that she should act in such a way that everyone who came in contact with her would go away joyful. The message of mercy that Sister Faustina received is now being spread throughout the world; her diary, *Divine Mercy in my Soul*, has become the handbook for devotion to the Divine Mercy.