

attachment to sin. There is no such condition to receive the grace of Divine Mercy. To receive the extraordinary graces, we should prepare by making a good confession, so that we can receive Holy Communion in a state of grace on Divine Mercy Sunday.

It is a grace equal to the grace of Baptism according to the theologians.

Why Should We Celebrate the Feast?

Because we can receive a lot of graces. God wants to give us all His gifts but we have to come to take them, having the proper attitude of heart. So we have to accept God's gifts, to do it thankfully and enjoy them to discover their value. "If you only knew what God is offering" Jesus says to the Samaritan woman.

The Feast is a beautiful day of grace.

The Church does offer a plenary indulgence on Divine Mercy Sunday, providing all the conditions are met. So we can receive the extraordinary promise for ourselves but offer the plenary indulgence for a holy soul.

30 April 2000

The Holy Father Pope John Paul II canonises Sister Faustina in St Peter's Square, Rome and institutes the Feast of the Divine Mercy for the Universal Church.

"It is important then 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"." Homily of the Holy Father, Mass in St Peter's Square for the canonisation of Sr Mary Faustina Kowalska Sunday 30 April 2000

If you wish further information contact Geraldine 01978 357367

Recommended Websites

The Marian Fathers of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception have been promoting Divine Mercy since 1941. Their website is a wealth of information www.thedivinemercy.org. Look especially at Divine Mercy Matters.

The Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy (St Faustina's Order)
www.saint-faustina.org

DIVINE MERCY NEWSLETTER ISSUE 2 OCTOBER 2023

*Welcome to this, our second issue of the Divine Mercy Newsletter with which we seek to spread the devotion to Divine Mercy. We will try to explain the basics of the practice of the new forms of devotion that Jesus gave through St Faustina. This little newsletter will draw mainly from the Diary of St Faustina "Divine Mercy in My Soul" allowing Jesus and his Secretary of Divine Mercy, St. Faustina to do the talking. All **writings in bold print** are the **words of Jesus as recorded by St Faustina**.*

In our first issue last month we considered The Divine Mercy Image. In this issue we will look at The Feast of Mercy, more generally known as Divine Mercy Sunday.

Jesus requested through St Faustina, five elements of devotion —The Feast of Mercy, the Image of the Merciful Jesus, the Novena, the Chaplet, and the Hour of Mercy.

The Feast of Mercy is ranked the highest of all these devotions.

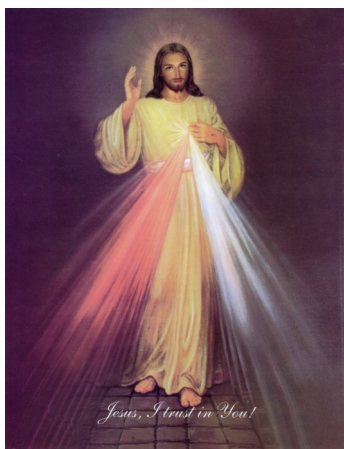
*St Faustina's prophetic mission began on 22 February 1931. It was on this date that she had her first vision of the Merciful Jesus and received the instruction from Him to have a picture painted Jesus said to me, **"Make a picture of this image in the form that you see, with the inscription Jesus, I trust in You. I want this picture venerated first in your chapel, and in the whole world."** (Diary 47)*

In the same month, Jesus said

My image already is in your soul. I desire that there be a Feast of Mercy. I want this image, which you will paint with a brush, to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter; that Sunday is to be the Feast of Mercy. (Diary 49)

*It is clear therefore that the Feast is very important to Jesus. His desire was made known at the very beginning, and the timing of the Feast was very explicit, **the first Sunday after Easter.***

THE FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY Known as DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY



Why a Feast?

Jesus wants us to know the pardon and love that God has in store for us. In the diary we read

Jesus looked at me and said, Souls perish in spite of My bitter Passion. I am giving them the last hope of salvation; that is, the Feast of My 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)

No soul will be justified until it turns with confidence to My mercy, and this is why the first Sunday after Easter is to be the Feast of Mercy. On that day, priests are to tell everyone about My great and unfathomable mercy. (Diary 570)

We can see the importance that Jesus gives this special Feast.

What is the Feast of Mercy?

When we look in the diary we find that the Feast is a shelter, a refuge for all souls especially for poor sinners, with great graces attached.

My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Fount of My Mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy. (Diary 699)

The Most Important Promise Given By Jesus to the People on the Feast of Divine Mercy

The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. (Diary 699)

And again

I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy (Diary 1109).

And again

Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment (Diary 300)

When we come out of confession the eternal punishment due to sin has been wiped away as long as we have a valid confession. But the temporal punishment due to sin may remain. The grace we can receive on Divine Mercy Sunday wipes all that away. The complete forgiveness of sin and punishment due to sin. This is a grace given by Christ on Divine Mercy Sunday and is only for yourself; it should not be confused with a plenary indulgence. The difference is in essence. The plenary indulgence is given by the church, the grace of Divine Mercy Sunday is given by God Himself through revelation. The indulgence is removal from punishment of sins confessed, the Divine Mercy grace is the removal of all sins and punishment even the sins forgotten to be confessed. To receive the indulgence there must be no