

# DIVINE MERCY NEWSLETTER ISSUE 5

## JANUARY 2024

Welcome to this, our fifth issue of the Divine Mercy Newsletter and the first of 2024. The purpose of which is to help 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**.

So far we have looked at The Divine Mercy Image, the Novena, The Chaplet and the Hour of Mercy. These are the four channels of grace given to us by Jesus through St Faustina. The theme that we see running through these channels is **Trust in God**. In fact, Trust in Jesus is the essence of the message of Divine Mercy, and this is what we will begin to explore this month.

**“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**

Jesus complained to me, saying these words, **“The lack of trust souls have in Me is tearing My innards apart. I am hurt even more by the lack of trust in a chosen soul. In spite of My boundless love they do not trust Me, even My death is not sufficient for them. Woe to the soul which shall abuse them.”\*** (\*Them = My boundless love and My death) - **Diary 50**

O Most Holy Trinity, I trust in Your infinite mercy. God is my Father, therefore I, His Child, have every right to His Divine Heart, and the greater the darkness, the fuller should be our trust. – **Diary 357**

I do not understand how you could not trust in the One Who is all powerful; with Him everything is possible; without Him – nothing. He is the Lord; He will not let those who have put all their trust in Him be confounded. – **Diary 358**

## TRUST IN GOD'S MERCIFUL LOVE



The message and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, an uneducated Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy. Even before her death in 1938, the devotion to The Divine Mercy had begun to spread.

“Trust” is written about over 100 times in the Diary, Jesus returning to it time after time, emphasising its importance, its effect and most poignantly the effect that lack of Trust has on Our Lord.

**“With souls that have recourse to My mercy and with those that glorify and proclaim My great mercy to others, I will deal according to My infinite mercy at the hour of their death. My Heart is sorrowful because even chosen souls do not understand the greatness of My mercy. Their relationship with Me is, in certain ways, imbued with mistrust. Oh, how much that wounds My Heart! Remember My Passion, and if you do not believe My words, at least believe My wounds”.** *Diary 379*

**Pray as much as you can for the dying. By your entreaties, obtain for them trust in My mercy, because they have most need of trust, and have it the least. Be assured that the grace of eternal salvation for certain souls in their final moment depends on your prayer. You know the whole abyss of My mercy, so draw upon it for yourself and especially for poor sinners. Sooner would heaven and earth turn into nothingness than would My mercy not embrace a trusting soul”.** *Diary 1777*

## WHAT IS TRUST?

Trust is simply confidence in God. To have trust in God means to have confidence in who he is – and who he is in relation to us. As Jesus' disciples, we believe in God's goodness, love, and power.

When we trust him, we live with a firm belief that he created us, loves us, and wants us to live with him in eternity. We trust that if we do his will, nothing we experience in this life will keep us from him in the next. When we trust in God, we invite him to take charge of our lives. Trusting God does not imply that we become passive. Instead, it involves an active choice to use our gifts and talents willingly in his service. Trusting God is not a vague feeling that "everything will work out for the best"; it is a readiness to make decisions with the knowledge that God's mercy and power are greater than any obstacles we may encounter. Trusting God requires an active and sometimes difficult choice to submit our will to the will of God.

Our confident trust in the divine goodness will lead us to serve our brothers and sisters to that they may experience God's loving care through our acts of mercy. We make a wholehearted effort to love God and bring his love to our neighbours in the certainty that his way is best. When we trust in Jesus, we live fully, courageously, and mercifully, led by his love every step of the way.

**"Encourage the souls with whom you come in contact to trust in My infinite mercy. Oh, how I love those souls who have complete confidence in Me. I will do everything for them".** [Diary 294](#)

Jesus said **"My daughter, do you think you've written enough about My mercy? What you've written is just a tiny drop in the ocean. I am love and mercy itself; there is no misery that could measure up to My mercy; neither can My mercy be exhausted by wretchedness, for My mercy increases as it is being dispensed. Most happy is the soul that puts its trust in My mercy, for I Myself am concerned for its wellbeing.** – [Diary 1273](#)

**"The soul that trusts in My mercy is most fortunate, because I Myself take care of it".**—[Diary 1274](#)

One day the Lord said to me, **"My daughter, your trust and love are holding back My justice, and I cannot punish because you are stopping me."** O, how great is the power of the soul that is full of trust. – [Diary 198](#)

**"Write this, Everything that exists is enclosed in the bowels of My mercy, more deeply than an infant in its mother's womb. How painfully distrust of My goodness wounds Me! Sins of distrust wound Me most painfully".** [Diary 1076](#)

## WHY TRUST GOD?

Our trust in God's love grows from our knowledge of him and ourselves. As disciples of Jesus we know that we cannot fulfil our deepest desires – we know that only God's will satisfies our hearts.

We tend to choose things that drive us away from our true fulfilment. God has created us in his image and likeness and destined us to see him face-to-face. Despite our privileged origin and supernatural calling, however, we are fallen, limited creatures. Our ability to think clearly and choose well is distorted because of sin.

The road to holiness begins with a sincere acknowledgment that we are weak and prone to sin – and that any good we do comes from God's grace working in us (see Philippians 2:13). Understanding our limitations is not an expression of defeat but a recognition of our need for a saviour. When we acknowledge our need, we open ourselves to the victory of Jesus.

We can trust God, then because he has shown himself to be *worthy* of our trust. How? In the Incarnation, Passion, death, and resurrection of his Son, Jesus, he revealed his love for us. Because God is infinitely good, he has not left us to search for him in the dark. He has shown the depths of his mercy. As he told the prophet Jeremiah long ago, "I know the plans I have for you....plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope" (Jeremiah 29:11).

When our first parents rebelled, God promised a saviour. Throughout salvation history, he remained faithful to this promise, forming the hearts of his people to prepare them for the coming of the Messiah. In the "fullness of time," he took on human flesh, lived among us, suffered at the hands of sinners, died on the Cross, and rose from the dead to save us from our sins. He gave us the Church to bring us his grace and guide us on our journey to heaven. So why do we trust God? Because he loves us – and has shown us his love in so many ways. We can freely and confidently give him our wills, our choices, our very hearts as we journey through life, knowing that he will guide us where he wants us to go.

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*Material from the Divine Mercy Catholic Bible was used in producing this newsletter.*