

The Divine Mercy Devotion

The First Sunday after Easter has been designated as Divine Mercy Sunday by His Holiness (of fond memory) Pope John Paul II. This has come to pass at the request of Our Lord Jesus Christ, as revealed to a Sister of Mercy, Sr. Maria Faustina Kowalski of Poland, Saint Faustina.

Beginning in the years 1930-1938, His Apparitions to her came as a plea for mankind to turn to the Merciful Heart of Jesus in these troubled and sinful times. Our Lord Jesus included a Chaplet of Mercy and a Devotional Novena in his guidance of Sr. Faustina's actions and prayers. This Devotion, unlike others, requires the practice of Mercy – extended to ones' neighbors daily by word, work and by prayer -- as a second foundation stone.

Sinners are not to fear coming to the Merciful Heart of Jesus -- though their sins be of scarlet....as numerous as the sands of the earth....hardened sinners. ***Trust in His Mercy is what he asks.*** The promises of Our Lord to those who follow his requests include the remission of all sins and punishment.



The Chaplet/Novena is to start on Good Friday. The Novena asks prayers each of nine days for a different group of souls in order to immerse them in the sea of His Mercy. Confession is required on the day of, or two weeks before or after the day of the Feast of Mercy. Jesus said, "I desire that the Feast be a refuge and a shelter for all souls." ... "Mankind must draw close to the Merciful Heart to find Peace." ... "I have come as a Merciful Savior before I come as a Just Judge."

The Chaplet can be said at any time as with the Novena, at home as a private devotion or at church. However the Chaplet/Novena is expressly requested to be started on Good Friday and to be made on the nine days before Mercy Sunday in order to gain the merits and promises of

Our Lord Jesus Christ.

On Passion Sunday, Chaplet/Novena Pamphlets will be distributed free outside all Masses. Please take one and begin praying the Novena on Good Friday. If possible, consider attending the Divine Mercy Celebration held here at St. Mary Help of Christians Church, at 2:00 pm on Mercy Sunday, the Sunday after Easter.