



Divine Mercy Sunday – April 11, 2010

FACTS ABOUT THE FEAST OF MERCY

St. Faustina’s Diary contains many passages in which Our Lord is quoted as requesting that a “Feast of Mercy” be officially established in the Church. Jesus declared: **This Feast emerged from the very depths of my mercy, and it is confirmed in the vast depths of My tender mercies. ...It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. ...I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter of 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.**

Jesus stated: **The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on that day shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment due.**

...Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet.

But the Lord also made it clear that He expects us to let that mercy flow through us to others—through our actions, our words, and our prayers. His words to Sister Faustina are very strong and leave no room for misinterpretation: *Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, but there must also be acts of mercy...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 ...even the strongest faith is of no avail without works (742) ...if a soul does not exercise mercy in some way it will not obtain My mercy on the day of judgment (1317).*

The Vatican has officially made the first Sunday after Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday.

Preparation

● *Recitation of Novena*

Recite the Divine Mercy Chaplet once each day for nine days; begin on Good Friday.

● *On Mercy Sunday*

1. Celebrate the Feast of Mercy on the first Sunday after Easter.
2. Be truly sorry for sins and go to confession (8 days before, on, or after Mercy Sunday).
3. Receive Holy Communion on Mercy Sunday.
4. Venerate an image of the Divine Mercy.
5. Perform acts of mercy through words or deeds.

Graces

● *Plenary Indulgence*

- Complete pardon of the soul.
- Forgiveness of sins.
- Forgiveness of punishment due.

Our Lord reminds us through St. Faustina that,

"... mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My mercy."

"... he who refuses to pass through the door of my mercy must pass through the door of my justice."

"... whoever approaches the Fount of Life on this day will be granted complete remission of sins & punishment"

THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

1. Feed the hungry
2. Give drink to the thirsty
3. Clothe the naked
4. Shelter the homeless
5. Comfort the imprisoned
6. Visit the sick
7. Bury the dead



THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

1. Admonish sinners
2. Instruct the uninformed
3. Counsel the doubtful
4. Comfort the sorrowful
5. Be patient with those in error
6. Forgive offenses
7. Pray for the living and the dead

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Divine Mercy Sunday will **NOT** be held at St Theresa’s this year. The sacrament of Confirmation will take place in the church at that time. Please take a copy of the list of churches that are offering, Mercy Sunday Devotions, in the baskets that are in the gathering space of the church.