

The Divine Mercy Novena

The insert in last Sunday's bulletin was about the **Chaplet of Divine Mercy**. This devotion was originated with a Polish nun, St. Faustina Kowalski. Today's insert is about the Divine Mercy Novena which we begin to pray on Good Friday, April 15.

Jesus told her to record this in her diary: **"Encourage souls to say the Chaplet which I have given you. ... Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. ... When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as the just Judge but as the Merciful Savior. ... Say unceasingly the Chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it, they will receive great mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy."** (Diary, 687, 1541)

The Feast of Divine Mercy is celebrated on the Sunday after Easter, March 24th this year. By reciting the Divine Mercy Novena beginning on Good Friday, March 15th for nine consecutive days, Jesus gives us the tremendous opportunity to begin again – a fresh start of "complete forgiveness of sins and punishment" that may have otherwise have been due to us in life up to that point.

So powerful is the Chaplet that Christ said, **"Through the Chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will"** (Diary 1731)

It is important to note that there are three places in St. Faustina's Diary that record promises from our Lord of the extraordinary graces He will make available through the devout reception of Holy Communion on this Feast Day:

- **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** (1109).
- **Whoever approaches the Fount of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment** (300).
- **The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment** (699).

For each of the nine days, our Lord gave Saint Faustina a different intention:

All mankind, especially sinners; the souls of priests and religious; all devout and faithful souls; those who do not believe in God and those who do not yet know Jesus; the souls who have separated themselves from the Church; the meek and humble souls and the souls of little children; the souls who especially venerate and glorify His mercy; the souls detained in purgatory; and souls who have become lukewarm.

"I desire that during these nine days you bring souls to the fountain of My mercy, that they may draw therefrom strength and refreshment and whatever grace they have need of in the hardships of life, and especially at the hour of death" (Diary, 1209).

The Novena can be prayed alone, but it is especially beneficial prayed with others and your family members. While the Rosary is a prayer of meditation, the Chaplet and Novena of Divine Mercy are intercessory prayers.

Included with this bulletin is the Divine Mercy Chaplet and the Novena prayers in a small pamphlet. You are encouraged to pray the Chaplet daily. Praying the Novena prayers is not limited to this season, but can be prayed throughout the year.

"For the sake of his sorrowful passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world."

THE DIVINE MERCY NOVENA PRAYERS

FIRST DAY, Today, bring me ALL MANKIND, ESPECIALLY SINNERS

Most Merciful Jesus, whose very nature it is to have compassion on us and to forgive us, do not look upon our sins, but upon our trust which we place in Your infinite goodness. Receive us all into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart, and never let us escape from it. We beg this of You by Your love which unites You to the Father and the Holy Spirit. Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon all mankind and especially upon poor sinners, all enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion show us Your mercy, that we may praise the infinite power for Your mercy for ever and ever. Amen. **Conclude by saying the Divine Mercy Chaplet.**

SECOND DAY, Today, bring me THE SOULS OF PRIESTS & RELIGIOUS

Most Merciful Jesus, from whom comes all that is good, increase Your grace in men and women consecrated to your service, that they perform worthy works of mercy, and that all who see them may glorify the Father of Mercy who is in Heaven. Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the company of chosen ones in Your vineyard – upon the souls of priests and religious – and endow them with the strength of Your blessing. For the love of the Heart of Your Son which they are enfolded, impart to them Your power and light, that they may be able to guide others in the way of salvation, and with one voice sing praise to Your boundless mercy for ages without end. Amen. **Conclude by saying the Divine Mercy Chaplet.**

THIRD DAY, Today, bring me ALL DEVOUT AND FAITHFUL SOULS

Most Merciful Jesus, from the treasury of Your mercy, You impart Your graces in great abundance to each and all. Receive us into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart and never let us escape from It. We beg this grace of You by that most wondrous love for the heavenly Father with which Your Heart burns so fiercely. Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon faithful souls, as upon the inheritance of Your Son. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion grant them Your blessing and surround them with Your constant protection. Thus may they never fail in love or lose the treasure of the holy faith, but rather, with all the hosts of Angels and Saints, may they glorify Your boundless mercy for endless ages. Amen. **Conclude by saying the Divine Mercy Chaplet.**

FOURTH DAY, Bring me THOSE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE IN GOD AND THOSE WHO DO NOT YET KNOW ME

Most Compassionate Jesus, You are the light of the whole world. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who as yet do not believe in God or as yet do not know You. Let the rays of Your grace enlighten them that they, too, together with us, may extol Your wonderful mercy, and do not let them escape from the abode which is Your Most Compassionate Heart. Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls of those who do not believe in Your Son, and of those who as yet do not know You, but who are enclosed in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Draw them to the light of the Gospel. These souls do not know what great happiness it is to love You. Grant that they, too, may extol the generosity of Your mercy for endless ages. Amen. **Conclude by saying the Divine Mercy Chaplet.**

FIFTH DAY, Today, bring me THE SOULS OF SEPARATED BRETHERN

Most Merciful Jesus, Goodness Itself, You do not refuse light to those who seek it of You. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who have separated from your Church. Draw them by Your light into the unity of the Church, and do not let them escape from the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart; but bring it about that they, too, come to glorify the generosity of Your mercy. Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls of those who are separated from Your Son's Church, especially those who have squandered Your blessings and misused Your graces by obstinately persisting in their errors. Do not look upon their errors, but upon the love of Your own Son and upon His bitter Passion, which He

underwent for their sake, since they too, are enclosed in His Most Compassionate Heart. Bring it about that that they also may glorify Your great mercy for endless ages. Amen. **Conclude by saying the Divine Mercy Chaplet.**

SIXTH DAY, Today, bring me THE MEEK AND HUMBLE SOULS AND THE SOULS OF LITTLE CHILDREN

Most Merciful Jesus, You Yourself have said “Learn from Me for I am meek and humble of heart.” Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart all meek and humble souls and the souls of little children. These souls send all heaven into ecstasy, and they are the heavenly Father’s favorites. They are a sweet-smelling bouquet before the throne of God; God himself takes delight in their fragrance. These souls have a permanent abode in Your Most compassionate Heart, O Jesus, and they unceasingly sing out a hymn of love and mercy. Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon meek and humble souls and upon the souls of little children, who are enfolded in the abode which is the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. These souls bear the closest resemblance to Your Son. Their fragrance rises from the earth and reaches Your very throne. Father of mercy and of all goodness, I beg You by the love You bear these souls and by the delight You take in them: Bless the whole world, that all souls together may sing out the praises of Your mercy for endless ages. Amen. **Conclude by saying the Divine Mercy Chaplet.**

SEVENTH DAY, Today, bring me THE SOULS WHO ESPECIALLY VENERATE AND GLORIFY MY MERCY

Most Merciful Jesus, whose Heart is Love Itself, receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who particularly extol and venerate the greatness of Your mercy. These souls are mighty with the very power of God Himself. In the midst of all afflictions and adversities, they go forward, confident of Your mercy. These souls are united to You, O Jesus, they carry all mankind on their shoulders. These souls will not be judged severely, but Your mercy will embrace them as they depart from this life. Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls who glorify and venerate Your greatest attribute, that of Your fathomless mercy and who are enclosed in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. These souls are a living Gospel; their hands are full of deeds of mercy and their spirits, overflowing with joy, sing a canticle of mercy to You, O Most High! I beg You O God: show them your mercy according to the hope and trust that they have placed in You. Let there be accomplished in them the promise of Jesus, who said to them that during their life, but especially at the hour of death, the souls who will venerate this fathomless mercy of His, He, Himself, will defend as His glory. Amen. **Conclude by saying the Divine Mercy Chaplet.**

EIGHTH DAY. Today, bring me THE SOULS WHO ARE DETAINED IN PURGATORY

Most Merciful Jesus, You Yourself have said that You desire mercy; so I bring into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls in Purgatory, souls who are very dear to You, and yet who must make retribution to Your justice. May the streams of Blood and Water which gushed forth from Your Heart put out the flames of the purifying fire, that in that place, too, the power of Your mercy may be praised. Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls suffering in Purgatory, who are enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. I beg you, by the sorrowful Passion of Jesus, Your Son, and by all the bitterness with which His Most Sacred Soul was flooded, Manifest Your mercy to the souls who are under Your just scrutiny. Look upon them in no other way than through the Wounds of Jesus, Your dearly Beloved Son: for we firmly believe that there is no limit to Your goodness and compassion. Amen. **Conclude by saying the Divine Mercy Chaplet.**

NINTH DAY, SATURDAY, Today, bring me SOULS WHO HAVE BECOME LUKE WARM

Most Compassionate Jesus, You are Compassion itself. I bring lukewarm souls into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart. In this fire of Your pure love let these tepid souls, who, like corpses, filled You with such deep loathing, be once again set aflame. O Most Compassionate Jesus, exercise the omnipotence of Your mercy and draw them into the very ardor of Your love; and bestow upon them the gift of holy love, for nothing is beyond Your power. Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon lukewarm souls who are nonetheless enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Father of Mercy, I beg You by the bitter Passion of Your

Son and by His three-hour agony on the Cross, let them too, glorify the abyss of Your mercy. Amen. **Conclude by saying the Divine Mercy Chaplet.**