

## DIVINE MERCY

In the Jubilee Year, 2000, on April 30, Pope John Paul II, canonized Blessed Mary Faustina Kawalska and made her a saint. St. Faustina had many visions of the Risen Lord and one of these visions have has been made into a painting. This image of Jesus is called Divine Mercy.

On May 23, 2000, the Congregation for Divine Worship and Discipline of the Sacraments decreed that "...throughout the world, the Second Sunday of Easter will receive the name Divine Mercy Sunday."

### WHY WAS THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER EASTER CHOSEN?

St. Faustina wrote down much of what the Lord said to her in a book that is known as her Diary. From her diary we find out that Jesus told St. Faustina to celebrate Divine Mercy on this Sunday. (The Diary includes section numbers which are printed here for your convenience,)

#49: *When I [St. Faustina] came out of the confessional, I again heard words such as these: **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.*

#50: *I [Jesus] desire that priests proclaim this great mercy of Mine towards souls of sinners. Let the sinner not be afraid to approach me. The flames of mercy are burning Me—clamoring to be spent; I want to pour them out upon these souls. Jesus complained to me [St. Faustina] in these words, **Distrust on the part of souls is tearing at My insides. The distrust of a chosen soul causes Me even greater pain; despite My inexhaustible love for them they do not trust me. Even My death is not enough for them. Woe to the soul that abuses these [gifts].***

### WHAT IS SO SPECIAL ABOUT THIS IMAGE OF JESUS?

#299: *During prayer I [St. Faustina] heard these words within me: **The two rays denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls...These two rays issued forth***

*from the very depths of my tender mercy when my agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross. These rays shield souls from the wrath of My Father. Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him.*

### SO WHY DO WE NEED THIS FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY?

#570: *[Jesus said to me,] Write what I say to you. My delight is to be united with you...Out of love for you all, I will avert any punishments which are rightly meted out by my Father's justice...Your assignment and duty on earth is to beg for the whole world. No soul will be justified until it turns with confidence to My mercy, and that 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...Tell the confessor that the Image is to be on view in the church...By means of this image I shall be granting many graces to souls; so let every soul have access to it.*

#687: *[Jesus said,] Even if a sinner were most hardened, if only once he will recite this chaplet, he will obtain grace from my infinite mercy.*

## THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

**#1:** Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

**#2:** Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you; blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

**#3:** I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only son, Our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, sits at the right hand of the God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

(Pray #4 through #14 five times...)

**#4:** Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

**#5:** For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

**#6:** For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

**#7:** For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

**#8:** For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

**#9:** For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

**#10:** For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

**#11:** For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

**#12:** For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

**#13:** For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

**#14:** For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

**#15:** Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us, and on the whole world.

**#16:** Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us, and on the whole world.

**#17:** Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us, and on the whole world.

