



April 23 - The Sunday after Easter is **DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**

Through St. Faustina, Our Lord made a great promise to all those souls who would go to Confession and then receive Him in Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday, the Sunday after Easter. **Jesus promised a plenary indulgence, that “The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain the complete forgiveness of all sins and punishment.”**

Our Lord said “Every time you go to confession, immerse yourself entirely in My mercy with great trust... When you approach the confessional, know this, that I Myself am waiting there for you. I am only hidden by the priest, but I Myself act in your soul. Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy” (1602) Make your confession before Me. The person of the priest is... only a screen. Never analyze what sort of a priest that I am making use of; open your soul in confession to Me, and I will fill it with My light.” (1725)

To celebrate properly the Feast of Divine Mercy and to receive the forgiveness of all sins and punishment, you must go to Confession to a Catholic priest **within 20 days before or after Divine Mercy Sunday**. Or if you are in the state of very serious or mortal sin, you must always confess them before receiving Jesus in Holy Communion. For more info visit www.divinemerseysundayusa.com

Join us for devotions on Divine Mercy Sunday:
Sacrament of Reconciliation immediately after the 11 AM Mass
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament after the 11 AM Mass
Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 3:00 PM
Benediction following

Divine Mercy Novena Begins on Good Friday

Jesus asked that the Feast of the Divine Mercy be preceded by a Novena to the Divine Mercy which would **begin on Good Friday**. He gave St. Faustina an intention to pray for on each day of the Novena, saving for the last day the most difficult intention of all, the lukewarm and indifferent of whom He said:

“These souls cause Me more suffering than any others; it was from such souls that My soul felt the most revulsion in the Garden of Olives. It was on their account that I said: ‘My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass Me by.’ The last hope of salvation for them is to flee to My Mercy.”

For more information and how to pray the Divine Mercy Novena, visit www.ewtn.com/devotionals/mercy/novena.htm

PRAYING THE DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

1. Make the Sign of the Cross

2. Read the daily intention and prayers

3. Pray the Opening Prayers - the second prayer is repeated three times:

“You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.”

“O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You!” (three times)

4. Pray the Our Father

5. Pray the Hail Mary

6. Say the Apostles' Creed

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 arose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, sits at the right hand of 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 life everlasting. Amen.

7. On the Our Father bead before each decade, pray:

“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. Amen.”

8. On each of the Hail Mary beads in each decade, pray:

“For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.”

9. On each of the next four decades of the Chaplet, repeat steps 7 and 8 (pray the “Eternal Father”, followed by ten “For the Sake of His Sorrowful Passion”).

10. After praying all five decades of the Chaplet, pray:

“Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.” (repeat three times)

11. After the doxology, pray the closing prayer:

“Eternal God, in Whom mercy is endless, and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us, and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments, we might not despair, nor become despondent, but with great confidence, submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy Itself. Amen.”

12. End With the Sign of the Cross

The Divine Mercy Novena was dictated by Christ Himself to Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska. Jesus asked that the Feast of the Divine Mercy (April 23) be preceded by a Novena to the Divine Mercy which would begin on Good Friday. The Divine Mercy Novena is recited using ordinary rosary beads of five decades.



1 GOOD FRIDAY APRIL 14, 2017

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.

2 HOLY SATURDAY APRIL 15, 2017

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.

3 EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 16, 2017

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.

4 MONDAY APRIL 17, 2017

Today, 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.

5 TUESDAY APRIL 18, 2017

Today, bring me

THE SOULS OF SEPARATED BRETHREN

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.

6 WEDNESDAY APRIL 19, 2017

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.

7 THURSDAY APRIL 20, 2017

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.

8 FRIDAY APRIL 21, 2017

Today, bring me

THE SOULS 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.

9 SATURDAY APRIL 22, 2017

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.