

# DIVINE MERCY NOVENA



*Jesus, I Trust in You*

# **THE FEAST OF MERCY AND THE DIVINE MERCY**

## **DEVOTION**

Sister Mary Faustina of the Blessed Sacrament was canonized on April 30, 2000. Pope John Paul II said in the encyclical on the Divine Mercy (Dives in Misericordia) of Sister Faustina: "This simple woman religious particularly brought the Easter message of the Merciful Christ closer to Poland and the whole world."

St. Faustina was born on August 25<sup>th</sup>, 1905, in Poland. She joined the convent in 1924 and became a nun with the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Poland. She dies on October 5<sup>th</sup>, 1938, at the age of 33 from complications with TB. This humble, uneducated nun performed ordinary convent chores such as cook, gardener and gatekeeper. She also underwent extensive mystical experiences and became Jesus' special Apostle of Divine Mercy. Beginning in 1934, obeying her spiritual director, superiors, and Jesus Himself, St. Faustina began to record her experiences. Her diary reveals the depth of her love and devotion to Jesus and His desire to have a "Feast of Divine Mercy" celebrated on the Sunday after Easter, following a special 9-day novena.

This special image of Jesus, shown on the front cover, came about when St. Faustina was, in the evening of Feb 22, 1931, when she "was in my cell, I saw the Lord Jesus clothed in a white garment. One hand was raised in the gesture of a blessing, the other touching the garment at the breast, from which were emanating two large rays, one red, and the other pale. Jesus said to me, "Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the inscription, 'Jesus, I Trust in You.' I desire that the image be venerated first in your chapel, and then throughout the world. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over its enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I Myself, will defend it as My own glory."

"I desire that priests proclaim this great mercy of Mine toward souls of sinners. Let the sinner be not afraid to approach Me. I want to pour out my mercy upon these souls. Before I come as the Just Judge, I am coming first as the Kind of Mercy. Before the Day of Justice, I am sending the Day of Mercy. Those who will proclaim My Great Mercy, I shall protect them Myself at the hour of death, as My own glory. And even if the sins of souls will be dark as night, when the sinner turns to My mercy, he gives me the greatest praise and is the glory of My Passion. I cannot love a soul which is stained with sin, but when it repents there is not a limit to my generosity toward it. My Mercy embraces and justifies it."

"Mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to My Mercy."

Please stand for the opening hymn.

Please kneel.

### **PRAYER FOR DIVINE MERCY**

**ALL:**

O Greatly Merciful God, Infinite Goodness, today all mankind calls out from the abyss of its misery to Your Mercy -- to Your compassion, O God; and it is with its mighty voice of misery that it cries out. Gracious God, do not reject the prayer of this earth's exiles! O Lord, Goodness beyond our understanding, Who are acquainted with our misery through and through, and know that by our own power we cannot ascend to You, we implore You: Anticipate us with Your grace and keep on increasing Your mercy in us, that we may faithfully do Your holy will all through our life and at death's hour. Let the omnipotence of Your Mercy shield us from the darts of our salvation's enemies, that we may with confidence, as Your children, await Your final coming -- that day known to You alone. And we expect to obtain everything promised us by Jesus in spite of all our wretchedness. For Jesus is our Hope: through His merciful Heart as through an open gate we pass through to heaven. Amen

(#1570 – St. Faustina's Diary)

### **ACT OF CONTRITION**

**ALL:**

O my God, I am heartily sorry for having offended You, and I detest all my sins because I dread the loss of Heaven and the pains of hell; but most of all because they offend You, my God, who are all good and deserving of all my love. I firmly resolve, with the help of Your grace, to confess my sins, to do penance, and to amend my life. Amen.

# **THE NOVENA TO THE DIVINE MERCY**

## **FIRST DAY**

**LEADER:** Let us listen to the words of Jesus to St. Faustina

**“Today, bring to Me ALL MANKIND, ESPECIALLY ALL SINNERS, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. In this way you will console Me in the bitter grief into which the loss of souls plunges Me.”**

**ALL:**

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 omnipotence of Your mercy for ever and ever. Amen.

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## SECOND DAY

**LEADER:** Let us listen to the words of Jesus to St. Faustina

**“Today bring to me THE SOULS OF PRIESTS AND RELIGIOUS, and immerse them in My unfathomable mercy. It was they who gave Me strength to endure My bitter Passion. Through them, as through channels, My mercy flows out upon mankind.”**

**ALL:**

Most Merciful Jesus, from whom comes all that is good, increase Your grace in men and women consecrated to your service, that we may 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 in 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.

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## **THIRD DAY**

**LEADER:** Let us listen to the words of Jesus to St. Faustina

**“Today bring to Me ALL DEVOUT AND FAITHFUL SOULS, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. These souls brought Me consolation on the Way of the Cross. They were that drop of consolation in the midst of an ocean of bitterness.”**

**ALL:**

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.

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## FOURTH DAY

**LEADER:** Let us listen to the words of Jesus to St. Faustina

**“Today bring to Me THOSE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE IN GOD AND THOSE WHO DO NOT YET KNOW ME. I was thinking also of them during My bitter Passion, and their future zeal comforted My Heart. Immerse them in the ocean of My mercy.”**

**ALL:**

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 do not believe in God and of those who 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 You 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.

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## **FIFTH DAY**

**LEADER:** Let us listen to the words of Jesus to St. Faustina

**“Today bring to Me THE SOULS OF THOSE WHO HAVE SEPARATED THEMSELVES FROM MY CHURCH, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. During My bitter Passion they tore at My Body and Heart; that is, My Church. As they return to unity with the Church, My wounds heal and in this way they alleviate My Passion.”**

**ALL:**

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 themselves 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 have separated themselves from Your Son’s Church**, 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 the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Bring it about that they also may glorify Your great mercy for endless ages. Amen.

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## SIXTH DAY

**LEADER:** Let us listen to the words of Jesus to St. Faustina

**“Today bring to me THE MEEK AND HUMBLE SOULS AND THE SOULS OF LITTLE CHILDREN, and immerse them in My mercy. These souls most closely resemble My Heart. They strengthened Me during My bitter agony. I saw them as earthly Angels, who would keep vigil at My altars. I pour out upon them whole torrents of grace. Only the humble soul is capable of receiving My grace. I favor humble souls with My confidence.”**

**ALL:**

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 souls, upon humble souls, and upon 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.

## **SEVENTH DAY**

**LEADER:** Let us listen to the words of Jesus to St. Faustina

**“Today bring to me THE SOULS WHO ESPECIALLY VENERATE AND GLORIFY MY MERCY, and immerse them in My mercy. These souls sorrowed most over My Passion and entered most deeply into My Spirit. They are living images of My Compassionate Heart. These souls will shine with a special brightness in the next life. Not one of them will go into the fire of hell. I shall particularly defend each one of them at the hour of death.”**

**ALL:**

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; and 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 hearts, 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 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.

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## EIGHTH DAY

**LEADER:** Let us listen to the words of Jesus to St. Faustina

**“Today bring to Me THE SOULS WHO ARE DETAINED IN PURGATORY, and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy. Let the torrents of My Blood cool down their scorching flames. All these souls are greatly loved by Me. They are making retribution to My justice. It is in your power to bring them relief. Draw all the indulgences from the treasury of My Church and offer them on their behalf. Oh, if you only knew the torments they suffer, you would continually offer for them the alms of the spirit and pay off their debt to My justice.”**

**ALL:**

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 Purgatory, that there, too, the power of Your mercy may be celebrated.

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 but only through the Wounds of Jesus, Your dearly beloved Son; for we firmly believe that there is no limit to Your goodness and compassion. Amen

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## NINTH DAY

**LEADER:** Let us listen to the words of Jesus to St. Faustina

**“Today bring to Me SOULS WHO HAVE BECOME LUKEWARM and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy. These souls wound My Heart most painfully. My soul suffered the most dreadful loathing in the Garden of Olives because of lukewarm souls. They were the reason I cried out: “Father, take this cup away from Me, if it be Your will.” For them, the last hope of salvation is to flee to My mercy.”**

**ALL:**

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.

Please turn to  
St. Faustina’s praises of the Divine Mercy



Divine Mercy, sweet relief for anguished hearts,	<b>I Trust in You.</b>
Divine Mercy, only hope of despairing souls,	<b>I Trust in You.</b>
Divine Mercy, repose of hearts, peace amidst fear,	<b>I Trust in You.</b>
Divine Mercy, delight and ecstasy of holy souls,	<b>I Trust in You.</b>
Divine Mercy, inspiring hope against all hope,	<b>I Trust in You.</b>

**ALL:** 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.

(#950 - St. Faustina's Diary)

### **CHAPLET OF THE DIVINE MERCY**

**LEADER:** 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, envelope the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us.

(#1319 - St. Faustina's Diary)

**O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of Mercy for us, I trust in You!** (Repeat 3 times)

(#84 - St. Faustina's Diary)

**LEADER:**

Our Father, Who art in heaven,  
Hallowed be Thy Name.  
Thy Kingdom come.  
Thy Will be done,  
on earth as it is in Heaven.

**ALL:**

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.

**LEADER:**

Hail Mary full of Grace,  
the Lord is with thee.  
Blessed are thou amongst women  
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb Jesus.

**ALL:**

Holy Mary Mother of God,  
pray for us sinners,  
now and at the hour of our death  
Amen.

**LEADER:**

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;  
on the third day He rose again from the dead;  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

**ALL:**

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.

On the large beads:

**LEADER:** Eternal Father, I offer you the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord, Jesus Christ,

**ALL:** In atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the small beads:

**LEADER:** For the sake of His sorrowful Passion,

**ALL:** Have mercy on us and on the whole world.

Said 3 times at the end:

**ALL:** Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One,  
Have mercy on us and on the whole world.

(#476 – St. Faustina’s Diary)

**Jesus, I Trust in You** (repeat 3 times)

**FOR FIDELITY TO GOD’S WILL**

**ALL:** O Jesus, stretched out upon the cross, I implore You, give me the grace of doing faithfully the most holy will of Your Father, in all things always and everywhere. And when this will of God will seem to me very harsh and difficult to fulfill, it is then I beg You, Jesus, may power and strength flow upon me from Your wounds, and may my lips keep repeating, “Your will be done, O Lord.” O Savior of the world, Lover of man’s salvation, who in such terrible torment and pain did forget Yourself to think only of the salvation of souls. O most compassionate Jesus, grant me the grace to forget myself that I may live totally for souls, helping You in the work of salvation, according to the most holy will of Your Father.

Amen

(#1265 – St. Faustina’s Diary)

**PRAYER FOR A MERCIFUL HEART**

**ALL:** Oh Jesus, I understand Your mercy is beyond all imagining, and therefore I ask You to make my heart so big that there will be room in it for the needs of all the souls living on the face of the earth... and the souls suffering in Purgatory... Make my heart sensitive to all the sufferings of my neighbor, whether of body or of soul. Make my heart like unto Your merciful Heart. Transform it into Your own Heart that I may sense the needs of other hearts, especially those who are sad and suffering. May the rays of mercy rest in my heart. Jesus help me to go through life doing good to everyone. Amen

(#514, #692 – St. Faustina’s Diary)

## **FOR THE GRACE TO BE MERCIFUL TO OTHERS**

**LEADER:** O, most Holy Trinity! As many times as I breathe, as many times as my heart beats, as many times as my blood pulsates through my body, so many thousand times do I want to glorify Your mercy.

**ALL:** I want to be completely transformed into Your mercy and to be Your living reflection, O Lord. May the greatest of all divine attributes, that of your unfathomable mercy, pass through my heart and soul to my neighbor.

**LEADER:** Help me, O Lord, that my eyes may be merciful, so that I may never suspect or judge from appearances, but look for what is beautiful in my neighbors' souls and come to their rescue.

**ALL:** Help me, that my ears may be merciful, so that I may give heed to my neighbors' needs and not be indifferent to their pains and moaning's.

**LEADER:** Help me, O Lord, that my tongue may be merciful, so that I should never speak negatively of my neighbor, but have a word of comfort and forgiveness for all.

**ALL:** Help me, O Lord, that my hands may be merciful and filled with good deeds, so that I may do only good to my neighbor and take upon myself the more difficult and toilsome tasks.

**Leader:** Help me, that my feet may be merciful so that I may hurry to assist my neighbor, overcoming my own fatigue and weariness. My true rest is in the service of my neighbor.

**ALL:** Help me, O Lord, that my heart may be merciful so that I myself may feel all the sufferings of my neighbor. I will refuse my heart to no one. I will be sincere even with those who I know, will abuse my kindness. And I will lock myself up in the most merciful Heart of Jesus. I will bear my own suffering in silence. May Your mercy, O Lord, rest upon me.

**LEADER:** You, Yourself, command me to exercise the three degrees of mercy. The first: **the act of mercy**, of whatever kind. The second: **the word of mercy** — if I cannot carry out a work of mercy, I will assist by my words. The third: **prayer** — if I cannot show mercy by deeds or words, I can always do so by prayer. My prayer reaches out even there where I cannot reach out physically.

**ALL:** O my Jesus, transform me into Yourself, for You can do all things. Amen.

(#163 - St. Faustina's Diary)



## **TO OBTAIN AN UNDERSTANDING OF GOD**

**ALL:** Jesus, give me an intellect, a great intellect, for this only, that I may understand You better; because the better I get to know You, the more ardently will I love You. Jesus, I ask you for a powerful intellect, that I may understand divine and lofty matters. Jesus, give me a keen intellect with which I will get to know Your Divine Essence and Your indwelling, Triune life. Amen.

(#1474 - St. Faustina's Diary)

## **IN THANKSGIVING**

**ALL:** O Jesus, eternal God, I thank you for Your countless graces and blessings. Let every beat of my heart be a new hymn of thanksgiving to You, O God. Let every drop of my blood circulate for You, Lord. My soul is one hymn in adoration of Your mercy. I Love You, God, for Yourself alone. Amen.

(#1794 - St. Faustina's Diary)