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Sunday, April 12

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WHAT IS DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY?

Among all of the elements of devotion to The Divine Mercy requested by our Lord through St. Maria Faustina Kowalska, the Feast of Mercy holds first place. The Lord's will with regard to its establishment was already made known in His first revelation to the saint, as recorded in her *Diary*. In all, there were 14 revelations concerning the desired feast. Our Lord's explicit desire is that this feast be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. This Sunday is designated in "The Liturgy of the Hours and the Celebration of the Eucharist" as the "Octave Day of Easter." It was officially called the *Second Sunday of Easter* after the liturgical reform of Vatican II. Now, by the Decree of the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments, the name of this liturgical day has been changed to: "Second Sunday of Easter, or Divine Mercy Sunday."

'Now On Throughout the Church'. Pope John Paul II made the surprise announcement of this change in his homily at the canonization of St. Faustina on April 30, 2000. There, he declared: "It is important then that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church, will be called 'Divine Mercy Sunday.'"

By the words "the whole message," Pope John Paul II was referring to the connection between the "Easter Mystery of the Redemption" — in other words, the suffering, death, burial, resurrection, and ascension of Christ, followed by the sending of the Holy Spirit — and this Feast of Divine Mercy, the Octave Day of Easter, which fulfills the grace of atonement as lived through by Christ Jesus and offered to all who come to Him with trust. This connection is evident from the scripture readings appointed for this Sunday. As John Paul said, citing the Responsorial Psalm of the Liturgy, "The Church sings ... as if receiving from Christ's lips these words of the Psalm." "Give thanks to the Lord for He is good; His steadfast love (= mercy) endures forever" (Ps 118:1). And then, Pope John Paul II developed the connection further: "[This comes] from the lips of the risen Christ, who bears the great message of Divine Mercy and entrusts its ministry to the Apostles in the Upper Room: 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent Me, even so I send you.... Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained'" (Jn 20:21-23).

The Importance of the Image. During his homily, John Paul also made clear that the Image of The Divine Mercy St. Faustina saw, which is to be venerated on Divine Mercy Sunday, represents the Risen Christ bringing mercy to the world (see *Diary* 49, 88, 299, 341, 570, 742). Pope John Paul II said: "Jesus shows His hands and His side [to the Apostles]. He points, that is, to the wounds of the Passion, especially the wound in His Heart, the source from which flows the great wave of mercy poured out on humanity.

"From that Heart, Sr. Faustina Kowalska, the blessed whom from now on we will call a saint, will see two rays of light shining from that Heart and illuminating the world: **'The two rays,'** Jesus Himself explained to her one day, **'represent blood and water'** (*Diary*, 299).

"*Blood and water!* We immediately think of the testimony given by the Evangelist John, who, when a soldier on Calvary pierced Christ's side with his spear,

sees blood and water flowing from it (see Jn 19:34). Moreover, if the blood recalls the sacrifice of the cross and the gift of the Eucharist, the water, in Johannine symbolism, represents not only Baptism but also the gift of the Holy Spirit" (see Jn 3:5; 4:14; 7:37-39).

WORKS OF MERCY

Be Merciful as Your Father is Merciful. We are not only to receive the mercy of God, but to use it by being merciful to others through our actions, our words, and our prayers; in other words, we are to practice the Corporal and Spiritual Works (Acts) of Mercy. The Lord wants us to do these works of mercy, because even the strongest faith is of no use without works.

Corporal Works	Spiritual Works
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feed the hungry • Give drink to the thirsty • Clothe the naked • Shelter the homeless • Comfort the prisoners • Visit the sick • Bury the dead 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach the ignorant • Pray for the living & dead • Correct sinners • Counsel the doubtful • Console the sorrowful • Bear wrongs patiently • Forgive wrongs willingly

JESUS' CALL TO 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. I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy toward your neighbor: the first — by deed, the second — by word, the third — by prayer. In these three degrees is contained the fullness of mercy, and it is an unquestionable proof of love for Me. By this means a soul glorifies and pays reverence to My mercy.

Many souls ... are often worried because they do not have the material means with which to carry out an act of mercy. Yet spiritual mercy, which requires neither permissions nor storehouses, is much more meritorious and is within the grasp of every soul.

If a soul does not exercise mercy somehow or other, it will not obtain My mercy on the day of judgment. Oh, if only souls knew how to gather eternal treasure for themselves, they would not be judged, for they would forestall My judgment with their mercy" (1317).

Taken from www.divinemercy.org

PILGRIMAGE to Philadelphia for the World Meeting of Families and for the coming of our Holy Father Pope Francis to the Festival of Families and the Papal Mass happening in

Sept. 22 – 27th is filling up. We have a coach bus with a limited seating of 56 Pilgrims. Registration forms are at the entrances of the Church. Please honor the Deadline of April 27th for submission of your registration forms. For information on the World Meeting of Families 2015, please visit www.worldmeeting2015.org

CONGRATULATIONS TO THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN RECEIVED INTO THE CATHOLIC FAITH THIS EASTER! May they continue to receive God's grace and blessings on their faith journey.





A HEARTFELT THANK YOU to all the parish groups who hosted our Soup Fridays. The donations received (\$1,526.79) will be forwarded to the Missionaries of Charity. We would also like to thank those

who donated Easter flowers to make our Church beautiful. We also thank those who helped out with our various services during the Easter Triduum. We couldn't have done it without you!

SHARELIFE 2015 Working wonders in our community... "ShareLife supports a large family of Catholic agencies that truly do feed, clothe and shelter people, care for the sick and frail, and befriend the isolated and lonely. Reflecting Catholic charity, they protect the vulnerable, guide and counsel the troubled, visit people in prison and give a voice to the voiceless. Regardless of their religious beliefs or personal background, ShareLife agencies meet people where they are, treating them with the dignity and respect we all deserve." —Thomas Cardinal Collins, Archbishop of Toronto. **TODAY is ShareLife Sunday. Please give generously. You can work wonders!**



DIVINE MERCY CELEBRATION begins at 2:30 p.m. with Exposition & Benediction of the Most Blessed Sacrament, Sung Divine Mercy Chaplet. Bring items to be blessed.

SMI-CWL General Meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 14, starting with Holy Rosary at 7:00 p.m. All ladies of the Parish are invited to attend and help discern if this Ministry is for you. Refreshments will be served.

SMI-CWL Religious Store will be open after all Masses on April 18-19 in the church foyer.

33 DAYS TO MORNING GLORY is a 6-week program in preparation for Consecration to Jesus through Mary. Entrusting ourselves to Mary is well known to be the fastest, safest and easiest way to Jesus. Join us in the Parish Hall on Thursday (Apr. 9-May 7) at 7 -8:30 pm.

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINAR starting April 13th at St. Paschal Baylon Info / Register: Rosa at (905)883-1567.

BAKE SALE St. Theresa of Lisieux students will be selling baked goodies after all the Masses next weekend. Proceeds will help finance their March for Life trip to Ottawa in May.

SVPD BUNDLE UP WEEKEND, APRIL 25/26 The bundle up truck will be in the parking lot. Your donations of used clothing and small household items are appreciated.

'SPRING FLING' DINNER & DANCE INCLUDING SILENT AUCTION on May 2nd. Proceeds to benefit the kitchen restoration project. Tickets will be sold after all the Masses this weekend and are available in the church office or by contacting smirh.grandknight@yahoo.com.

12 aprile 2015 -2a di Pasqua della Divina Misericordia

«Cristo, mia speranza, è risorto» (Sequenza pasquale).

Giunga a tutti voi la voce esultante della Chiesa, con le parole che l'antico inno pone sulle labbra di Maria Maddalena, la prima ad incontrare Gesù risorto il mattino di Pasqua. Ella corse dagli altri discepoli e, col cuore in gola, annunciò loro: "Ho visto il Signore!" (Gv 20,18). Anche noi, che abbiamo attraversato il deserto della Quaresima e i giorni dolorosi della Passione, oggi diamo spazio al grido di vittoria: "E' risorto! E' veramente risorto!". Ogni cristiano rivive l'esperienza di Maria di Magdala. E' un incontro che cambia la vita: l'incontro con un Uomo unico, che ci fa sperimentare tutta la bontà e la verità di Dio, che ci libera dal male non in modo superficiale, momentaneo, ma ce ne libera radicalmente, ci guarisce del tutto e ci restituisce la nostra dignità. Ecco perché la Maddalena chiama Gesù "mia speranza": perché è stato Lui a farla rinascere, a donarle un futuro nuovo, un'esistenza buona, libera dal male. "Cristo mia speranza" significa che ogni mio desiderio di bene trova in Lui una possibilità reale: con Lui posso sperare che la mia vita sia buona e sia piena, eterna, perché è Dio stesso che si è fatto vicino fino ad entrare nella nostra umanità. (Benedetto XVI, Urbi et orbi, Pasqua 2012).

"La visita del Risorto non si limita allo spazio del Cenacolo, ma va oltre, affinché tutti possano ricevere il dono della pace e della vita con il « Soffio creatore ». Infatti, per due volte Gesù disse ai discepoli : « Pace a voi ! », e aggiunse : « Come il Padre ha mandato me, anch'io mando voi ». Detto questo, soffiò su di loro, dicendo : « Ricevete lo Spirito Santo. A coloro a cui perdonerete i peccati, saranno perdonati ; a coloro a cui non perdonerete, non saranno perdonati ». È questa la missione della Chiesa perennemente assistita dal Paraclito : portare a tutti il lieto annuncio, la gioiosa realtà dell'Amore misericordioso di Dio, « perché – come dice san Giovanni – crediate che Gesù è il Cristo, il Figlio di Dio, e perché, credendo, abbiate la vita nel suo nome » (20,31).

Alla luce di questa parola, incoraggio, in particolare, tutti i Pastori a seguire l'esempio del santo Curato d'Ars, che, « nel suo tempo, ha saputo trasformare il cuore e la vita di tante persone, perché è riuscito a far loro percepire l'amore misericordioso del Signore. Urge anche nel nostro tempo un simile annuncio e una simile testimonianza della verità dell'Amore » (Lettera di indizione dell'Anno Sacerdotale). In questo modo renderemo sempre più familiare e vicino Colui che i nostri occhi non hanno visto, ma della cui infinita Misericordia abbiamo assoluta certezza. Alla Vergine Maria, Regina degli Apostoli, chiediamo di sostenere la missione della Chiesa, e La invociamo esultanti di gioia : Regina Caeli..." (Benedetto XVI, presso il Santuario della Divina Misericordia, 2010)."

AVVISI

1. Coltivando la gioia pasquale, oggi celebriamo la domenica della Divina Misericordia; alle 2.30pm vi sarà l'esposizione ed adorazione del Santissimo Sacramento, seguite dalle preghiere di Santa Faustina. Se avete oggetti religiosi da far benedire, portateli a questa celebrazione.
2. Aprile 25/26, il camion della S. Vincenzo de Paoli sarà a disposizione per ricevere vestiti ed oggetti domestici usati. Non si possono accettare mobile ed oggetti di elettronica. Vi si ringrazia per il vostro contributo.
3. 2 maggio: 'spring fling' cena e ballo in aiuto del progetto di riadattamento della cucina.

MASS INTENTIONS		April 12-18
SAT.	5:00 p.m.	+Giovanni Paradiso +Joyce Blyth +William James Spicer +Maria Santoli +Irina Miknevitch
SUN.	9:30 a.m.	+Pietro Cristillo +Benedetto Baccilieri +Dario Iacobelli +Rosina e Angelo Corvinelli +Nazarreno Cristini In thanksgiving for Paolo e Gabriella Tanel +Andrea e Concetta Venditelli e famiglia +Nicola Mastrogiuseppe Deceased of Artenosi family +Joe Vaccaro +Ermelinda Tiano +Gustavo Taffo
	11:00 a.m.	+Anna Maria Sperduti +Joe Vaccaro Intentions of Anna Ahlowalia +Joseph Pustijanac
	12:30 p.m.	+Maggie Lobo
	4:30 p.m.	Pro populo
MON.	8:00 a.m.	+ Giuseppe Giusti
TUE.	8:00 a.m.	+ Domenico Capacchione
WED.	8:00 a.m.	+ Mary Martineau
THURS.	8:00 a.m.	+Peter Chau
FRI.	8:00 a.m.	+Francis Chan
	7:00 p.m.	In Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus +Elio Lazzer +Joe Vaccaro +Herbert, Catherine & Patrick Paxton Members of the Naughton Fam.
SAT.	8:30 a.m.	In Thanksgiving to the Immaculate Heart of Mary +Intentions of Eva Lue In Thanksgiving – Margaret Cheung

PLEASE REMEMBER OUR SICK: Fr. Kenneth John Decker, Fr. McGough, Fr. Tilley, Ursula Addesi, Doris Anderson, Eugene Bomba, Matteo Burbano, Patrick Burke, Rory Burke, Stephanie Byrne, David Calado, Andy Calado, Domenico Capacchione, Victoria Carli, Bruno Cassara, Andrea Cavallin, Joe Cinno, Carol Cook, Manuela Clement, Rosa Corvinelli, Caterina De Grano, Paolo D'Elia, Thomas De Souza, Harry Dekharmenjan, Tanya DiPersio, Maria DiZio, Nancy Duncan, Steven Fiorini, Roberto Garcias, Margaret Gardiner, Milberg Gibbons, Jessica Gonzales, Godfrey Gosein, Gertiudes Henriques, Andy Heutehaus, Theresa Hogan, Lawrence Howe, Elena Iacobelli, Rogelia Infante, Maria Iudiciani, Jolanta Karabowicz, Margaret Kelly, Olivera Lambeta, Ester Lin, Mary Malandrino, Macaria Margate, Chris Markle, Veronica Martin, Rachele (Joy Ann) Mendoza, George Morgan, Anthony Morse, Susan, Nino Naccarato, Lydia, Michelle Antoinette Nedvedskaya, Helen & Catherine, Myola Nunes, Rosemary Palmieri, Lisa, Domenico Pileggi, Kaliopi & Eugenia Pandelopoulou, Esther Reyes, Patricia Rybka, Todd Santaguida, Werner & Lucienne Schachatsiek, Claire Schickedanz, Vincenzo Sorbara, Pat Sullivan, Jannette Thompson, Linda Vincent, Therese Vincent, Nora Waldherr, Abigail Walz, Sandra Weinholdt, Kayla Whelan

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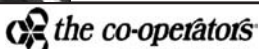


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