

THE DIVINE MERCY

The Paschal Mystery

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Apostle of Divine Mercy

“Divine Mercy is God’s love reaching down to meet the needs and overcome the miseries of his creatures.”



Fr. Robert Stackpole, STD

GOD'S LOVE

GOD=DIVINE

LOVE=MERCY

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.” Jn 3:16

THE DIVINE MERCY IS JESUS CHRIST

THE PASCHAL MYSTERY: LOVE

- ❑ “I lay down my life...No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord” (Jn 10:17-18).
- ❑ “No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends” (Jn 15:13).
- ❑ “Mercy is an indispensable dimension of love.”
Pope John Paul II.
- ❑ “Tell the world about My mercy and My love...Tell [all people], My daughter, that I am Love and Mercy itself” (Diary 1074).

The Paschal Mystery

- Hebrew: *Pesach*
- Pasch commemorates the passover of the Israelite homes by the avenging angel who killed only the firstborn of the Egyptians (Ex 11:4-8).
- Slaughter a lamb without blemish (Ex 12:1-13).
- Smear blood from the lamb on the doorposts and the lintel of the houses
- Angel of death will passover

The Paschal Mystery, cont...

- ❑ “Like a lamb that is led to the slaughter” (Is 53:7).
- ❑ Without blemish: “For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin...” (2 Cor 5:21).
- ❑ “...for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins” (Mt 26:27-28).
- ❑ “For the life of the flesh is in the blood; and I have given it to you for making atonement for your lives on the altar” (Lev 17:11).
- ❑ “For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord” (Rom 6:23).

THE ULTIMATE LOVE

- *Passion:* The Last Supper

 - The Agony in the Garden

 - The Scourging at the Pillar

 - The Crowning with Thorns

 - The Carrying of the Cross

- *Death:* The Crucifixion (source of mercy)

 - “He was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed”

 - (Is 53:5).

- *The Resurrection and Ascension into Glory* (source of hope)

DIVINE MERCY: Source of Mercy, The Holy Eucharist

- Mercy at the Last Supper:

Institution of the Holy Eucharist: Jesus took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and giving it to his disciples said, “*Take and eat; this is my body.*” Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying...“*this is my blood*” (Mt 26:26).

- Divine Mercy Chaplet: “Eternal Father, I offer You the *Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity* of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ...” (Diary 476).
- “The Sacrament of the Eucharist is key to the devotion of The Divine Mercy “ (Kosicki, 1992, p.35).

The Holy Eucharist, cont...

- ❑ Jesus often appeared to Sr. Faustina at daily Mass and Holy Communion.
- ❑ Sr. Faustina wrote how two rays came from the Host as seen in the Image of Divine Mercy.
- ❑ The rays passed through the hands of the Priest to the people (Diary 344).
- ❑ Sr. Faustina also saw the rays emanating from the Monstrance spreading throughout the whole Church (Diary 370).

DIVINE MERCY:

Source of Mercy, Forgiveness

- Mercy from the Cross-*Forgiveness*:
 - “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do” (Lk 23:34).
 - “Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise” (Lk 23:43).
- Divine Mercy Chaplet:
 - “For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world” (Diary 476).

Forgiveness, cont...

- ❑ Fount of Mercy-*Healing powers*:
“...one soldier thrust his lance into his side and immediately blood and water flowed out”
(Jn 19:34).
- ❑ “O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You!” (Diary 84).
- ❑ *The Image of Divine Mercy*:
Pale rays represent the waters of Baptism, and the red rays represent the Blood of the Eucharist.

Forgiveness, cont...

Divine Mercy Chaplet

- ❑ Jesus told Sr. Faustina, “Encourage souls to say the chaplet which I have given to you...When hardened sinners say it, I will fill their souls with peace, and the hour of their death will be a happy one “ (Diary 1541).
- ❑ “Say unceasingly the chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it 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 the chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy” (Diary 687).

Forgiveness, cont...

Divine Mercy Sunday

- Jesus said to Sr. Faustina, “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. I desire that the first Sunday after Easter be the Feast of Mercy” (Diary 299).
- “I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open...The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment” (Diary 699).

Forgiveness, cont...

Sacrament of Reconciliation

- ❑ Jesus said to his Disciples, “...He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained” (Jn 20:22-23).
- ❑ Jesus told Sr. Faustina, “I Myself am the spiritual guide of souls-and I guide them indirectly through the priest” (Diary 1784).
- ❑ Jesus said to Sr. Faustina, “...just as you prepare in My presence, so also you make your confession before Me. The person of the priest is, for Me, only a screen” (Diary 1725).

Source of Mercy, Mother of Mercy

- ❑ "His mercy is...from generation to generation"
(Lk 1:50).
- ❑ Mother Mary shared in revealing God's mercy by the sacrifice of her heart. "And you yourself a sword will pierce" (Lk 2:35).
- ❑ "Woman, behold, your son." "Behold your mother" (Jn 19:26-27).
- ❑ By Mother Mary's abundant intercession on our behalf, she continues to obtain for us the graces of eternal salvation.

Source of Hope, The Resurrection

- “The Son of Man is going to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised” (Mt 17:22-23).
- “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen” (Lk 24:5).
- “...that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day” (1 Cor 15:3-4).

Source of Hope, The Resurrection, cont...

- “For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ” (1 Cor 15:21-22).
- The Image of Divine Mercy reveals the Resurrected Jesus dressed in a white robe with one hand raised in blessing and the other by his heart issuing forth life giving water and blood for all who would believe and trust in Him.

Source of Hope, Ascension into Glory

- “When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight” (Acts 1:9).
- “Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, precedes us into the Father’s glorious kingdom so that we, the members of his Body, may live in the hope of one day being with him for ever” (CCC 666).

Source of Hope, Ascension into Glory, cont...

- “In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also” (Jn 14:2-3).
- “Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom” (Lk 12:32).

Source of Hope, The Divine Mercy

- “Write this: before I come as the Just Judge, I am coming first as the King of Mercy” (Diary 83).
- “I want to give Myself to souls; I yearn for souls, My daughter. On the day of My feast, the Feast of Mercy, you will go through the whole world and bring fainting souls to the spring of My mercy. I shall heal and strengthen them “(Diary 206).
- “Proclaim that mercy is the greatest attribute of God. All the works of My hands are crowned with mercy“ (Diary 301).

SUMMATION: The Paschal Mystery

- Through Christ's Passion, death, resurrection and ascension into glory, death passes over the whole human race bringing salvation to those who believe (Jn 3:16).
- Merciful Jesus, I trust in You!

**THE PASCHAL MYSTERY IS THE
MYSTERY OF DIVINE MERCY**

? QUESTIONS ?

“Death has been swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

“Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1Cor 15:54-57)

**JESUS CHRIST IS THE DIVINE MERCY
INCARNATE!**



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