

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY Prayer Service in FAMILIES



A.

Presider:

In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And with your spirit.

P: Let us turn to our Merciful Father, who showed his Love and Everlasting Mercy in his Son, Jesus Christ, asking for his mercy for our Family and for the whole world, as we start our Family Celebration of Divine Mercy Sunday:

Lord Jesus, you raise us to new life: Lord have mercy.

All: Lord have Mercy.

P: Lord Jesus, you forgave our sins: Christ have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

P: Lord Jesus, you fed us with your Body and Blood: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

P: May the Merciful Father embrace our whole family with his merciful love, forgive our sins and strengthen us in service to him and to the whole community with the love we have received from his Divine

Mercy. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

All sing: Glory to God in the highest...



Presider: Opening Prayer

Let us pray

God of Infinite Mercy, you chose your humble servant St. Faustina to be the Apostle of Divine Mercy in our time. Through her intercession may we come to trust in you and your unfathomable mercy more fully. We place before You today our needs, the needs of our families, our parish, and of the whole world experiencing the suffering of the pandemic of coronavirus, and we ask you to look kindly upon them. Help us to grow ever stronger in our faith that we might put into practice works of mercy in our daily lives. We make this prayer, through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

1st Reading – Acts 2:42-47

Responsorial Psalm – Psalms 118:2-4, 13-15, 22-24

R. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his love is everlasting.

Let the house of Israel say, "His mercy endures forever."

Let the house of Aaron say, "His mercy endures forever."

Let those who fear the LORD say, "His mercy endures forever."

R. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his love is everlasting.



I was hard pressed and was falling, but the LORD helped me.

My strength and my courage is the LORD, and he has been my savior.

The joyful shout of victory in the tents of the just:

R. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his love is everlasting.

The stone which the builders rejected has become the cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done; it is wonderful in our eyes.

This is the day the LORD has made; let us be glad and rejoice in it.

R. Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, his love is everlasting.

2nd Reading – 1 Peter 1:3-9

Alleluia – John 20:29

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

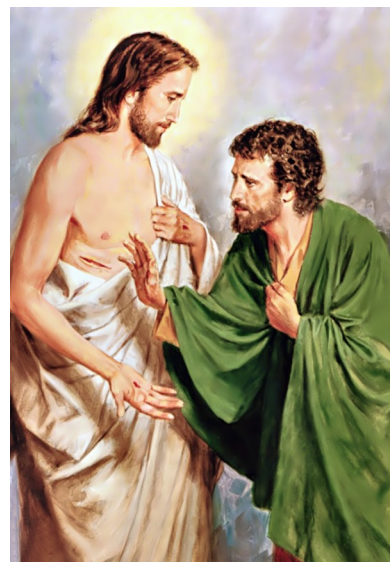
You believe in me, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord;

Blessed are those who have not seen me, but still believe!

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel – John 20:19-31

The family can share now, the words of today's readings and celebration which touched their hearts and lives.



INTERCESSIONS:

PRESIDER:

Our heavenly Father loves us and cares for our needs. In faith, we bring our prayers to him with confidence inspired by the Resurrection of his Son.

P: We pray for Francis our Pope, the communion of Bishops, and all the clergy, who are called to be ambassadors for Christ. For their fidelity to the truth of the Gospel revealed in the mercy of Christ, Merciful Lord, hear us.

All: Risen Lord, graciously hear us.

P: We pray for our FAMILY and all Christians. That we may embrace the corporal and spiritual works of mercy demanded by our Baptism, Merciful Lord, hear us

All: Risen Lord, graciously hear us.

P: We pray for all people of good will. That the entire human family may recognize our common bond to work for justice and the good of all peoples, especially in this time of CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC, Merciful Lord, hear us.

All: Risen Lord, graciously hear us.

P: We pray for all victims of injustice. That they may learn the freedom of mercy and find healing, Merciful Lord, hear us.

All: Risen Lord, graciously hear us.

P: We pray for all those enslaved by their past sins or decisions. That the wounds of Christ may encourage them to seek his surpassing love for them, Merciful Lord, hear us.

All: Risen Lord, graciously hear us.

P: We pray for the sick, the suffering, and the dying. That they may receive healing and encounter the mystery of their dignity as God's children, Merciful Lord, hear us.

All: Risen Lord, graciously hear us.

P: We pray for all those who have died.... That the Lord in his mercy may welcome them into his dwelling, Merciful Lord, hear us.

All: Risen Lord, graciously hear us.

P: Now, let us present the intentions we have in our hearts Merciful Lord, hear us.

All: Risen Lord, graciously hear us.

The Lord's Prayer:

Gathering these prayers together, as well as those we hold in the silence of our hearts, we pray in the words that Jesus taught us.

Our Father...

Prayer to stop the Coronavirus

Almighty and Merciful Father, who show your love to all your creation. We come before you asking for a quick control of the Corona Virus currently ravaging our world. Hear graciously the prayers we make for those affected by the virus in various parts of the world. Grant healing to the sick, eternal life to the dead and consolation to the bereaved families. We pray that an effective medicine to combat the sickness be speedily found. We pray for the relevant Governments and Health Authorities that they take appropriate steps for the good of the people. Look upon us in your mercy and forgive us our failings. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

An Act of Spiritual Communion by St. Alphonsus Liguori

All: My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen

CLOSING PRAYER:

The PRESIDER leads the FAMILY in reciting the Prayer of Entrustment of the World to Divine Mercy:

God, merciful Father, in Your Son, Jesus Christ, You have revealed Your love and poured it out upon us in the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. We entrust to You today the destiny of our FAMILY, of the world and of every man and woman. Bend down to us sinners, heal our weakness, conquer all evil, and grant that all the peoples of the earth may experience Your mercy. In You, the Triune God, may they ever find the source of hope. Eternal Father, by the Passion and Resurrection of Your Son, have mercy on us and upon the world. Amen

Queen of Heaven, rejoice, Alleluia!
for he whom you were worthy to bear, Alleluia!
has risen as he said, Alleluia!
Pray for us to God, Alleluia!

All: May Almighty God bless us, protect us from all evil and bring us to everlasting life. Amen! Alleluia!

Praise the Lord, Alleluia, Alleluia
Thanks be to God, Alleluia, Alleluia

All are invited to share a sign of Christ's peace.

Please spend the time together as family, sharing your life's experiences, showing mutual love and care.

May the MERCIFUL LORD JESUS CHRIST, Bless you All.

Yours in Christ, praying for All of you in daily Holy Mass,

+ Stanislaw Jan Dziuba, OSPPE
Bishop of Catholic Diocese of Umzimkulu

The CHAPLET and LITANY YOU PRAY at 3:00 afternoon.

B. Chaplet of The Divine Mercy (sung) –

Recite: Our Father, Hail Mary, The Apostles' Creed.

On the Our Father Beads sing:

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.

On the Hail Mary Beads sing:

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

In conclusion, sing:

Three times recite: Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.



Let us pray: Eternal God in who mercy is endless and a 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.

C. Litany in Praise of The Divine Mercy

The PRESIDER or another person, leads the FAMILY in praying the Litany of The Divine Mercy.

Lord, have mercy,	Lord, have mercy
Christ, have mercy,	Christ, have mercy
Lord, have mercy,	Lord, have mercy
Christ, hear us	<i>Christ, graciously hear us</i>
God, the Father of heaven	<i>have mercy on us</i>
God the Son, Redeemer of the world	<i>have mercy on us</i>
Holy Trinity, One God	<i>have mercy on us</i>

Divine Mercy, gushing forth from the bosom of the Father
 Divine Mercy, greatest attribute of God,
 Divine Mercy, incomprehensible mystery, of the Most Blessed Trinity,
 Divine Mercy, unfathomed by any intellect, human or angelic,
 Divine Mercy, from which wells forth all life and happiness,
 Divine Mercy, better than the heavens,
 Divine Mercy, source of miracles and wonders,
 Divine Mercy, encompassing the whole universe,
 Divine Mercy, descending to earth in the Person of the Incarnate World,
 Divine Mercy, which flowed out from the open wound of the Heart of Jesus,
 Divine Mercy, enclosed in the Heart of Jesus for us, and especially for sinners,
 Divine Mercy, unfathomed in the institution of the Sacred Host,
 Divine Mercy, in the founding of Holy Church,
 Divine Mercy, in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism,
 Divine Mercy, in our justification through Jesus Christ,
 Divine Mercy, accompanying us through Jesus Christ,
 Divine Mercy, embracing us especially at the hour of death,
 Divine Mercy, endowing us with immortal life,
 Divine Mercy, accompanying us every moment of our life,
 Divine Mercy, shielding us from the fire of hell,
 Divine Mercy, in the conversion of hardened sinners,
 Divine Mercy, astonishment of Angels, incomprehensible to Saints,

*I trust in You
 I trust in You*



Divine Mercy, unfathomed in all the mysteries of God,
 Divine Mercy, lifting us of every misery,
 Divine Mercy, source of our happiness and joy,
 Divine Mercy, in calling us forth from nothingness to existence,
 Divine Mercy, embracing all the works of His hands,
 Divine Mercy, crown of all of God's handiwork,
 Divine Mercy, in which we are all immersed,
 Divine Mercy, sweet relief for anguished hearts,
 Divine Mercy, only hope of despairing souls,
 Divine Mercy, repose of hearts, peace amidst fear,
 Divine Mercy, delight and ecstasy of holy souls,
 Divine Mercy, inspiring hope against all hope.
 Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world
 Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world
 Lamb of God, who take away the sins of the world

*spare us, O Lord
 graciously hear us, O Lord
 have mercy on us*

V: The Mercy of God is above all His works.

R: Hence, we will praise The Divine Mercy forever and ever.

Jesus, I trust in You
 Jesus, I trust in You
 Jesus, I trust in You

IN FREE TIME: to read and reflect on: Selected Reading from St. Faustina's Diary

1. The Message of Our Lord's Mercy

"God's merciful love is greater than all sin, greater than all evil and greater than death itself. Mercy is the greatest attribute of God – it is love poured out on us sinners." Our Lord speaks to St. Faustina about his mercy:

"The flames of mercy are burning me. I desire to pour them out upon human souls... I am Love and Mercy itself. When a soul approaches me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance

of grace that it cannot be contained within itself, but radiates to other souls." [1074]

"I am Mercy itself for the contrite soul. A soul's greatest wretchedness does not enkindle Me with wrath; but rather, My Heart is moved towards it with great mercy." [1739]

"How very much I desire the salvation of souls! I want to pour out My divine life into human souls and to sanctify them, if only they were willing to accept My grace. The great sinners would achieve great sanctity, if only they would trust in My mercy. The very inner depths of My being are filled to overflowing with mercy, and it is being poured out upon all I have created. My delight is to act in a human soul and to fill it with My mercy and to justify it. My kingdom on earth is My life in the human soul." [1784]

"Be always merciful as I am merciful. Love everyone out of love for Me, even your greatest enemies, so that My mercy may be fully reflected in your heart." [1695]



2. Responding to Our Lord's Mercy-

- + The Feast of The Divine Mercy,
- + the Chaplet of The Divine Mercy,
- + the Image of The Divine Mercy.

Our Lord speaks to St. Faustina about the FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY:

“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. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. *The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.* On that day, all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. [699]

Extraordinary promises are attached to the recitation of the CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY:

“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 recites this chaplet only once, he will receive grace from my infinite mercy. [687]

At the hour of their death, I defend as My own glory every soul that will say this chaplet or when others say it for a dying person, the indulgence is the same. When this chaplet is being said by the bed side of a dying person, God’s anger is placated, and unfathomable mercy envelops the soul, and the very depths of My tender mercy will be moved for the sake of the sorrowful Passion of my son.” [811]

In 1931 Our Lord appeared to Saint Faustina in a vision. She saw Jesus clothed in a white garment with His right hand raised in blessing. His left hand was touching His garment in the area of the heart, from where two large rays came forth, one red and the other pale. Jesus said to her:



“PAINT AN IMAGE according to the pattern you see with the signature: Jesus, I Trust In You... I promise that the soul that venerates 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. [47, 48]

“The two rays denote blood and water. The pale ray stands for the water which makes the soul righteous. The red ray stands for the blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the depths of My tender mercy when My agonized heart was opened by the lance on the cross. Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the Just hand of God shall not lay hold of him. [299].

3. Responding to Our Lord’s Mercy— The Sacraments of Eucharist and Reconciliation.

The Sacrament of the Eucharist is key to the devotion of The Divine Mercy:

“I desire to unite Myself with human souls; My great delight is to unite Myself with souls. Know, My daughter, that when I come to a human heart in Holy Communion, My hands are full of all kinds of graces which I want to give to the soul. But souls do not even pay any attention to Me; they leave Me to Myself and busy themselves with other things. Oh, how sad I am that souls do not recognize Love! They treat Me as a dead object.” [1385]

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is the place of our Lord’s greatest mercy.

Tell souls where they are to look for solace; that is, in the Tribunal of Mercy [the Sacrament of Reconciliation]. There the greatest miracles take place [and] are incessantly repeated. To avail oneself of this miracle, it is not necessary to go on a great pilgrimage or to carry out some external ceremony; it suffices to come with faith to the feet of My representative and to reveal to him one’s misery, and the miracle of Divine Mercy will be fully demonstrated. Were a soul like a decaying corpse so that from a human standpoint, there would be no [hope of] restoration and everything would already be lost, it is not so with God. The miracle of Divine Mercy restores that soul in full. Oh, how miserable are those who do not take advantage of the miracle of God’s mercy! You will call out in vain but it will be too late. [1448]

