



The **Divine Mercy** is a Roman Catholic devotion to the merciful love of God and the desire to let that love and mercy flow through one's own heart towards those in need of it. The devotion is due to Saint Mary Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938), who is known as the “*Apostle of Mercy*.”

St. Maria Faustina, a Polish nun, reported a number of visions of Jesus and conversations with him which she wrote in her diary, later published as the book *Diary: Divine Mercy in My Soul*. The three main themes of the devotion are to ask for and obtain the mercy of God, to trust in Christ's abundant mercy, and finally to show mercy to others and act as a conduit for God's mercy towards them

The devotion includes the importance of the *Divine Mercy image* (see above) which St. Faustina reported as a vision of Jesus while she was in her cell in the convent. The image is displayed and venerated by Catholics on its own, and is solemnly blessed during Divine Mercy Sunday which is always the first Sunday following Easter Sunday. The devotion makes use of specific prayers such as the Chaplet of Divine Mercy described here below in this document.

The Divine Mercy devotion is followed by over 100 million Catholics around the world.

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

(Sign of the Cross) In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

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.

Our Father in heaven, holy is Your name; may Your kingdom come and Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, and deliver us from evil, Amen.

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

(The Apostle's 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; on the third day He arose 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. 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.

The 1st decade is dedicated* to all of those in the world who right now are in the last hour of their deaths. Lord, we ask You to grant them a peaceful death and to have mercy on their sins.

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.

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

The 2nd decade is dedicated to all of our family members who have died and may be in purgatory, especially (name here).

Lord, we ask You to have mercy on their souls and to take them into heaven to be in love with You for eternity.

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.

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

*the dedications are Dr. Ken's addition

This prayer is shared courtesy of Gratia Plena.

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

The 3rd decade is dedicated to our friends who have died and may be in purgatory, especially (name here).

Lord, we ask You to have mercy on their souls and to take them into heaven to be in love with You for eternity.

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.

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

The 4th decade is for all of those who have died and are in purgatory, but have no one to pray for them. Lord, we ask You to have mercy on their souls and to take them into heaven to be in love with You for eternity.

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.

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

The 5th decade is for us Lord, that You may grant us a peaceful death and have mercy on us in that last hour. Forgive us our terrible sins against You and our brothers and sisters, and take us to be with You in love for eternity.

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.

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

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

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.

(Sign of the Cross) In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.