

The Hour of Great Mercy

Welcome to this digital Divine Mercy Novena! Each day of the Novena will start with some information about St. Faustina, her experience with Our Lord and His great mercy, and excerpts from the Diary of St. Faustina. You can purchase your own copy of the Diary [here](#). St. Faustina's diary contains several passages in which Our Lord requests that the "Feast of Mercy" be officially established in the Church. Jesus also asked that the Feast of Mercy be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. That day is a day of grace for all people, particularly for great sinners. "This Feast emerged from the very depths of My mercy, and it is confirmed in the vast depths of my tender mercies." (Diary, 420)

In His revelations to St. Faustina, our Lord asked for special prayer and meditation on His Passion each afternoon at the three o'clock hour, the hour that recalls His death on the Cross.

At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony. This is the hour of great mercy.... In this hour I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion (Diary, 1320). As often as you hear the clock strike the third hour, immerse yourself completely in My mercy, adoring and glorifying it; invoke its omnipotence for the whole world, and particularly for poor sinners; for at that moment mercy was opened wide for every soul. In this hour you can obtain everything for yourself and for others for the asking; it was the hour of grace for the whole world mercy triumphed over justice. My daughter, try your best to make the Stations of the Cross in this hour, provided that your duties permit it; and if you are not able to make the Stations of the Cross, then at least step into the chapel for a moment and adore, in the Most Blessed Sacrament, My Heart, which is full of mercy; and should you be unable to step into chapel, immerse yourself in prayer there where you happen to be, if only for a very brief instant (1572).

Completely Trust in Jesus

Trust in Jesus is the essence of the message of mercy. When we go to a public fountain, we can draw water from it if we have a vessel or container of some kind to put the water in. If our vessel is small, we can only bring back a little

water; if it's large, we can bring back a lot. And anyone with a vessel can draw water from the fountain. The water is there for us, and no one is excluded. All we need is a vessel. So, it is with God's mercy. In repeated revelations to St. Faustina, Our Divine Savior makes it clear that the fountain is His Heart, the water is His mercy, and the vessel is trust.

I have opened My Heart as a living fountain of mercy. Let all souls draw life from it. Let them approach this sea of mercy with great trust (*Diary*, 1520). On the cross, the fountain of My mercy was opened wide by the lance for all souls - no one have I excluded! (1182). I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: "Jesus, I trust in You" (327). The graces of My mercy are drawn by means of one vessel only, and that is - trust. The more a soul trusts, the more it will receive (1578).

In the *Diary of St. Faustina*, we hear Our Lord reminding us that we can depend upon His love ...that He alone is worthy of our trust:

I never reject a contrite heart (1485). Sooner would heaven and earth turn into nothingness than would My mercy not embrace a trusting soul (1777).

But there is more to trust than just believing that God is trustworthy. We must act upon that belief. Trust involves a turning back to God, a real conversion of our whole lives to God, repenting of our sins and forgiving others. Trust is a living faith. Trust means that we agree to let God be God, instead of trying to be God ourselves. (Trust is the antidote to the first sin of Adam!) It means that we agree that God can write the script of our lives, instead of insisting on our own script. It means that we agree with the great pledge we make in the Our Father: "Your will [not mine] be done on earth as it is in heaven." It means that even in our moments of agony we agree with the cry of Jesus in the Garden: "Not my will, but Yours be done" (Lk 22:42). God is Mercy itself, and we are called to practice the ABCs of mercy. As we do, our trust in Jesus is the vital ingredient. We don't simply ask for mercy, nor do we simply try to be good to other people. We ask with complete trust, and Our Lord fills us with grace so that we can be merciful as our Heavenly Father is merciful.

I am Love and Mercy itself. When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself but radiates them to other souls (1074).

NOVENA: The Eighth Day

Bring to Me the Souls in Purgatory

Jesus said:

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.

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

(+ Prayer) 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.

PRAYER FOR THE INTERCESSION OF St. FAUSTINA

Saint Faustina, you told us that your mission would continue after your death and you would not forget us (Diary, 281,1582). Our Lord also granted you a great privilege, telling you to “distribute graces as you will, to whom you will, and when you will” (31). Relying on this, I ask your intercession for

the graces I need, especially *(mention your special intentions here)*
Help me, above all, to trust in Jesus you did and thus to glorify His mercy every
moment of my life. Amen.

Praying the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy:

The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray
stands for Blood which is the life of souls.

On rosary beads:

First say one:

Our Father, Hail Mary, and The Creed...

Then, on the large beads, say:

*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 10 smaller beads say:

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

In Conclusion, say three times:

*Holy God, Holy Might One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the
whole world.*