

Quotes from St. Faustina's Diary

Sister Faustina was a young, uneducated nun in a convent of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Poland during the 1930s. She had only three years of simple education, so hers were the humblest tasks in the convent, usually in the kitchen or garden. However, she received extraordinary revelations — messages — from our Lord Jesus. During his appearances, he gave Faustina directions on how to make God's mercy known to everyone. Below are a collection of these instructions which she wrote down in her diary.

Jesus said to Saint Faustina, "Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus I trust in You. I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and throughout the world." (Diary 47)



She also records the following words of Jesus in relation to the image he commissioned her to have painted and venerated:



"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." (Diary 327)

"The two rays denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized heart was opened by a lance on the Cross. These rays shield souls from the wrath of My Father. Happy is the one who dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him." (Diary 299)

"By means of this image I shall grant many graces to souls. It is to be a reminder of the demands of My mercy, because even the strongest faith is of no avail without works." (Diary 742)

GROWING CATHOLICS

2nd Sunday of Easter April 24, 2022 John 20: 19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained."

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger into the nailmarks and put my hand into his side, I will not believe."

Now a week later his disciples were again inside and Thomas was with them. Jesus came, although the doors were locked, and stood in their midst and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. But these are written that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that through this belief you may have life in his name.



EVERYONE SHOULD KNOW

No matter which liturgical year (A, B or C) we are celebrating, we always hear this Gospel story on the 2nd Sunday of Easter.

HE IS ALIVE

Jesus presented the scars left by the nails and the lance that pierced his chest. It is a way of saying, "It's me. I was dead, but now I am alive."

FAITH

When Jesus says, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed," we can imagine he is speaking to us, who believe without having seen him.



SEEDS FOR CONVERSATION

Share what word/s or image/s in the reading caught your attention. Did they comfort or challenge you or touch you in some other way?

Of whom or what are the disciples afraid? Of all the things Jesus must have said, why might St. John record "Peace be with you" three times? How does this relate to their fears?

Have you noticed that Jesus did not promise the gift of peace: he gives that gift! Do you see yourself having been given peace by Christ? In what ways? When? Have you ever felt Christ breathing in your face? (He breathes upon us face to face, imparting the Holy Spirit which brings peace).

Why is reflecting on the infinite mercy of God so fitting a conclusion to the Easter Octave?

How is this week's Gospel fitting for Divine Mercy?

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

The Sunday following Easter is called "Divine Mercy Sunday." This is a great feast in our Church that highlights and celebrates the great love and mercy that Christ has for each one of us and for the whole world.

IDEAS FOR THE FAMILY:

PRAY the Divine Mercy Chaplet together!



FEAST Have a special "feast" for dinner on Sunday. The Saint that received this message was St. Faustina who was Polish. Know any Polish recipes? Kielbasa and sauerkraut or cabbage is a great one-skillet meal, especially nice with mashed potatoes. You can top it off with a "Divine Mercy" Sundae (get it..Sundae...Sunday...).

EVERY DAY - Jesus revealed to St. Faustina that "Three O'clock Hour" is an hour of great mercy. Consider praying the chaplet every day at 3 p.m. - or, even just the 3 o'clock Prayer (right). What a great transition as you pick children up from school (even if it isn't precisely at 3 pm.)

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." (Diary, 1572)



The CONVERSION PRAYER

(or 3 o'clock Prayer)

O Blood and Water,
which flowed from the heart
of Jesus as a
Fountain of Mercy for us,
I trust in You!

Holy God,
Holy Mighty One,
Holy Immortal One,
have mercy on us and the
whole world.
[3 times]

Jesus King of Mercy, I trust in
You!