

# St. Teresa of Avila Parish

Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate

44 Leonard St., Kitchener, Ontario, N2H 6C8 Phone: 519-743-4525

E-mail: [st.teresa@stteresakit.ca](mailto:st.teresa@stteresakit.ca) [www.stteresakit.ca](http://www.stteresakit.ca)

Second Sunday of Easter (Sunday of Divine Mercy)

April 11, 2021

## St. Teresa of Avila

“To have courage for whatever comes in life - everything lies in that.”



## Parish Staff & Organizations

**Pastor:** Fr. Marian Gil, OMI

**Parish Secretary:** Mary Steffler

**Business Administrator:** David Agnew

**Facilities Manager:** Jack Pigeau

**Volunteer Gardeners:**

**Baptism Preparation Team:**

**CWL President:** Mary Alice Zister

**Lector Co-ordinator:** Mary Alice Zister

**Eucharistic Minister Co-ordinator:**

Kim Voelzing

**Prayer Group:**

Mila Navaleza - 519-574-8534 or  
519-900-0250

**Finance Council Chair:**

Don Pickett, Jr.

**Pastoral Council Chair:**

Barbara Daly

**St. Vincent de Paul:**

Bernie & Rosemary Pickett

519-749-1501

## St. Teresa School

Principal: Mr. Brian Goodyear

Secretary: Mary Lavigne

519-743-2131

## Parish Office Hours

Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Wednesday – Office Closed**

## Saturday Liturgy:

9:00 a.m.

5:00 p.m.

## Weekday Schedule

Please check inside for  
weekly schedule

## Sunday Liturgy:

10:00 a.m.

**Confession:** 30 min. before Mass; Sat., 4:15 – 4:45 p.m.

**Healing Mass:** First Friday of each month – 7:00 p.m.

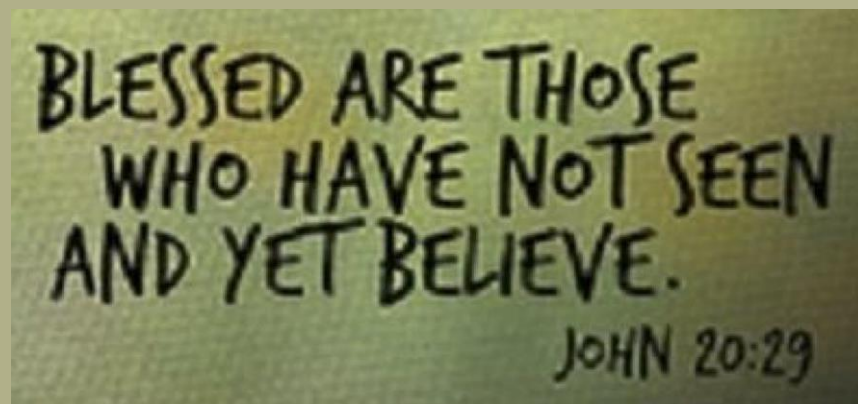
**Prayer Meeting:** 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Friday – 7:00 p.m.

**Divine Mercy Sunday**

On this, the first Sunday after the celebration of Easter, the emphasis is on faith in the presence and power of the living Jesus in our midst. This Risen Jesus now lives on in the community which believes in Him. It is endowed with the same powers that Jesus had during His life here on earth. **“So many signs and wonders were worked among the people at the hands of the apostles that the sick were even taken out into the streets and laid on beds and sleeping mats in the hope that at least the shadow of Peter might fall across some of them as he went past.”**

The Gospel, brings us back to an earlier stage when the disciples have not yet come to the full realization that Jesus, whom they saw crucified, dead and buried, is now alive, that He is risen. He breathed on them, saying: **“Receive the Holy Spirit.”** The very empowering authority of Jesus is transferred to them: **“Whose sins you shall forgive... whose sins you shall retain...”** When they act together in the name of Jesus, they have His authority. And, above all, their task is to “forgive sin”, that is, to bring about a deep reconciliation between people and God and among people themselves, to make all one in Him.

But the story is not yet finished. Thomas, “one of the Twelve,” was not there on that Easter Sunday. He stands for the sceptic in all of us. **“Unless I see with my own eyes ... I will not believe.”** The following Sunday – the Sunday we are celebrating today, Thomas is directly addressed. “Put your finger here; look at my hands. Put your hand in my side. Don’t doubt any longer but believe.” There follows the greatest confession of faith in all of the gospels: **“My Lord and my God!”** Thomas had been invited to touch the wounds but he does not seem to have done so. And his cry of recognition is not based only on the evidence of his senses. He does not say, “Jesus, it’s you!” but “My Lord and my God!”


**2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY of EASTER**
**Diocese of Hamilton  
Prayer Calendar 2021**

April 12 – Rev. Francisco Sordo  
 April 13 – Very Rev. Wojciech Kuzma  
 April 14 – Permanent Deacons  
 April 15 – Rev. James McSharry  
 April 16 – Rev. Francis Hubilla  
 April 17 – Rev. Joseph Okoko, i.v.Dei.  
 April 18 – **Third Sunday of Easter**

**Vocations**
**Second Sunday of Easter  
(Sunday of Divine Mercy)  
April 11, 2021**

Easter! Resurrection and new life; a new life shared from an earthen tomb. This has been the meaning of life for Christian people for two thousand years. There is nothing more secure, nothing more lasting. Come and share the thrill of proclaiming this truth through your life as a priest, religious or deacon. Call Most Reverend Wayne Lobsinger, VG, EV, Auxiliary Bishop & Vocations Director, Diocese of Hamilton at (905) 528-7988 x2222.

[vocations@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:vocations@hamiltondiocese.com)  
<https://hamiltondiocese.com/vocations/>

**Serra Prayer for Vocations**

O God, Who wills not the death of a sinner, but rather that he be converted and live, grant we beseech You, through the intercession of the Blessed Mary ever Virgin, Saint Joseph her spouse, Saint Junipero Serra, and all the saints, an increase of labourers for Your Church, fellow labourers with Christ to spend and consume themselves for souls, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, Who lives and reigns with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God forever and ever.

Amen.

## CONGRATULATIONS!

On Holy Saturday, April 3, 2021, during the Easter Vigil celebration the following participants of the RCIA program received the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation:

**Aaron R.H. Cook**

**Flora Osasu Ojeyokan**

**Timothy Ebhdjie Ojeyokan**

We rejoice with them and assure them of our continued prayers. Congratulations Aaron, Flora and Timothy!

## CHURCH IS OPEN FOR MASS AND PRAYER

We have now resumed our usual Mass schedule. Please refer to the bulletin for any changes. You are also invited to visit Jesus, in the Most Blessed Sacrament, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Narthex. The Adoration Chapel remains closed. Please take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to come and spend some time with the Lord! Jesus is waiting for you!

## Parish Office – Important Information!

The parish office will remain open, at this time. Admittance to the Parish Office, however, is **by appointment only**. To book an appointment, please call 519-743-4525 or email: [st.teresa@stteresakit.ca](mailto:st.teresa@stteresakit.ca). Please help us keep everyone safe by adhering to the safety guidelines.



QUALITY • INCLUSIVE • FAITH-BASED • EDUCATION

We are currently accepting applications for the following opportunities: **Lunch Hour Supervision (All Schools)** and **Registered Early Childhood Educators**. Please visit our website for job details and application criteria: [www.wcdsb.ca](http://www.wcdsb.ca)



The Lectures in Catholic Experience invites you to meet St. Jerome's University's new President

and Vice Chancellor, **Dr. Peter Meehan**.

How does the Roman Catholic Church meet the challenges of today while remaining connected to its past? Dr. Meehan explores the life and times of Archbishop Philip Pocock of Toronto, who navigated a similar challenge during the time of the Second Vatican Council. It also speaks to how the Church—and SJU—can participate in public debates on important ethical issues. **April 23, 2021–7:30 p.m. - Online**. Find out more [here](#).

## Mass Intentions

**April 12, 2021 – April 18, 2021**

Tuesday, April 13, 2021 – **7:00 p.m.**

**+Brian MacNeil** – *Magie*

Wednesday, April 14, 2021 – **8:30 a.m.**

Thursday, April 15, 2021 – **8:30 a.m.**

**+Ralph Poechman** – *Ann Snyder & Family*

Friday, April 16, 2021 – **8:30 a.m.**

Saturday, April 17, 2021 –

**9:00 a.m.** – Intentions of Marcelle Fausto – *Magie*

**5:00 p.m.** – Special Intentions of **Dabrowska-Miciula Family**

Sunday, April 18, 2021 – **10:00 a.m.** – **Third Sunday of Easter** – Year B – **Parishioners of St. Teresa Parish**

## Live-streaming on Zoom

The **Sunday Mass**, at **10 a.m.** will be **live-streamed** on Zoom. If you are not attending this Mass, and you wish to join Father online, please click on the following link:

<https://zoom.us/j/5887658626>

**The Password is: 274733**

## Daily Readings:

Lectors may find daily readings at this link:

<https://readings.livingwithchrist.ca>

## Baptism

This weekend, through the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome:

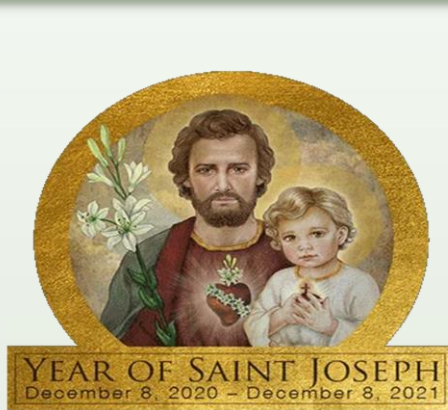
**Jackson Gregory Saucier**

**Willow Mae Saucier**

son and daughter of

**Devon and Chantalle Saucier**





### Prayer to St. Joseph

Remember, O St. Joseph,  
 loving and powerful protector,  
 that according to the testimony  
 of your faithful servant, great St.  
 Teresa,  
 no one who is truly devoted to you  
 has seen his petition rejected.  
 Filled with confidence and hope  
 I come to you, worthy Spouse  
 of Mary Immaculate.  
 Do not close your ears to my  
 prayer,  
 you who have the glorious title  
 of father of Jesus,  
 but graciously hear and intercede  
 for me.  
 Amen.

### Stewardship Report April 4, 2021

Envelopes .....	\$1320.00
Loose .....	\$ 183.95
Initial Offering .....	\$ 400.00
Building Fund .....	\$ 45.00
Pope's Pastoral Works .....	\$ 5.00
Share Lent .....	\$ 115.00
Easter .....	\$3271.00
Needs of the Church in the Holy Land (Good Friday) .....	\$ 778.00
Flowers .....	\$ 45.00
Candles .....	\$ 221.50

## Stewardship Report

As a parish community, we are celebrating Mass in the church, with reduced capacity. At this time, I would ask you to continue to keep our parish in your prayers and prayerfully consider continuing your donations. For those attending Mass, in person, a basket will be provided for you to drop off your donation, on your way out of the church.

### Pre-Authorized Giving

Pre-Authorized Giving is now available for our parishioners. A digital copy of the form may be found on our website under Bulletins for 2021. Simply print the form and complete it. For those unable to print the digital copy, please contact the Parish Office. Completed forms can be returned to the Parish Office via the slot in the Parish Office door or can be mailed to: St Teresa of Avila Parish, 44 Leonard St., Kitchener, ON N2H 6C8

### E-Transfer

**Exciting news** – We are now able to provide E-Transfer to our parishioners. For E-Transfers, please use the following email account: [stteresakitchener@hamiltondiocese.com](mailto:stteresakitchener@hamiltondiocese.com)

### CanadaHelps

To support our parish via **credit card** or **PayPal** please visit [canadahelps.org](http://canadahelps.org) You can access our parish directly by following this link:

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/119110450RR0053-st-teresas-parish/>

For those who do not get the bulletin electronically, go to [canadahelps.org](http://canadahelps.org) and then follow the instructions below:

Once you are on the homepage, you can access St. Teresa of Avila Parish by going to the Donate tab and clicking on Find a Charity. Click on the blue box that says Pick a category that is close to your heart. Now click on religion. Once you have done this you will have another tab appear that says All Locations. Click on this tab and change region to Ontario and city to Kitchener. You will now be able to scroll down until you find **STTERESAS** (Kitchener, ON appears below). Click on this link and you can then proceed with your donation.

Please note that donations made through the CanadaHelps website, will receive a tax receipt directly from CanadaHelps, via email.

You may also **send a gift directly** to our parish through the mail: **St. Teresa of Avila Parish, 44 Leonard St., Kitchener, ON N2H 6C8** or you may drop off **cash or cheque**, securely, at the Parish Office, through the mail slot in the wooden door, behind the white storm door. Please be sure to include your name, address and phone number or use your donation envelope.

**Continuing support of our parish is an act of generosity and faith. We are very grateful for any contributions you may be able to make at this time.**



**We extend our heartfelt gratitude to everyone who was involved in making our Triduum and Easter Sunday celebrations so special!**

**Thank you, to:**

- ❖ those who assisted in preparing for the liturgies, especially Don and Brenda Monastyrski, Jack Pigeau and Bill Zister. The church and flowers looked beautiful!
- ❖ Tom Daly, for the glorious singing of the Exultet at the Easter Vigil!
- ❖ Alison Cascagnette, Barbara Daly, Tom Daly, Angela Straus and Art Thomas for filling the church with their heavenly voices and musical accompaniment!
- ❖ all of our Lectors and Ushers
- ❖ our Sacristans
- ❖ Barbara Daly for the tremendous work done in providing online registration and assisting at the liturgies. Barbara's meticulous work on the seating plan helped us to bring everyone into the church safely and efficiently! Well done, Barbara!
- ❖ Christine Lorentz, our Catechist, who accompanied Aaron, Flora and Timothy over the last couple of years to prepare them for the reception of the Sacraments of Baptism, Holy Communion and Confirmation at the Easter Vigil.
- ❖ all those who sent Easter greetings and shared food to make this Easter pleasant and enjoyable.
- ❖ the parishioners of St. Teresa of Avila Parish for your joyful presence and continued support of our parish community.

**Easter Flowers** – Thank you to those who made donations to help cover the cost of flowers for our Triduum and Easter celebrations. A special thank you to the anonymous donor, who donated flowers to decorate the church for our celebrations!

## Chapel Renovations & Blessing of the Divine Mercy Chapel

The renovations on our Adoration Chapel are now complete. Thank you to all of the workers and electrician (Slawek Wojdyna, Jarek Kiciak, Wilczewski Tomasz), who have worked so lovingly and hard on the renovations to our chapel. The donation of your time and talents are greatly appreciated!



This Sunday, the Second Sunday of Easter and the Sunday of Divine Mercy, we will bless our newly renovated Adoration Chapel. At the present time, due to the pandemic, the chapel will remain closed, but hopefully, in the near future, we will all be able to once again, spend time in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, in this beautifully renovated chapel.





## Feast of the Divine Mercy

Jesus asked St. Faustina that the **Feast of the Divine Mercy** be preceded by a Novena to the Divine Mercy which would begin on Good Friday. Jesus gave St. Faustina an intention to pray for on each day of the Novena. For instance, on the last day, Jesus asked her to pray for 'lukewarm and indifferent', of whom He said: "These souls cause Me more suffering than any others;...' The last hope of salvation for them is to flee to My Mercy."

In her diary, St. Faustina noted that Jesus told her:  
 "On each day of the Novena you will bring to My heart a different group of souls and you will immerse them in this ocean of My mercy ... On each day you will beg My Father, on the strength of My passion, for the graces for these souls."

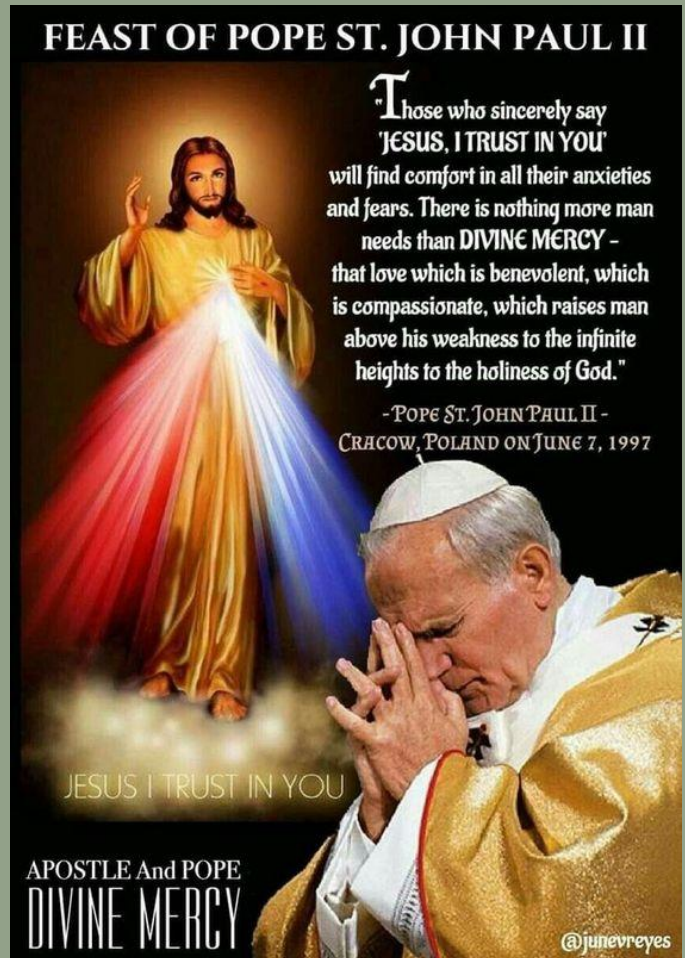
*Let all mankind recognize My unfathomable mercy. It is a sign for the end times; after it will come the day of justice. While there is still time, let them have recourse to the fount of My mercy; let them profit from the Blood and Water which gushed forth for them. (848)*



**Maria Faustyna Kowalska** (born Helena Kowalska; 25 August 1905 – 5 October 1938), also known as Faustina, was a Polish Roman Catholic nun and mystic. Her apparitions of Jesus Christ inspired the Roman Catholic devotion to the Divine Mercy and earned her the title of "Secretary of Divine Mercy".

Throughout her life, Faustina reported having visions of Jesus and conversations with Him, which she noted in her diary, later published as *The Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska: Divine Mercy in My Soul*. Her biography, submitted to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints, quoted some of the conversations with Jesus regarding the Divine Mercy devotion.

At the age of 20 years, she joined a convent in Warsaw. She was later transferred to Plock and then to Vilnius, where she met Father Michal Sopoćko, who was to be her Confessor and who supported her devotion to the Divine Mercy. With this priest's help, Sister Faustina commissioned an artist to paint the first Divine Mercy image, based on her vision of Jesus. Father



Sopoćko celebrated Mass in the presence of this painting on the Second Sunday of Easter or (as established by Pope John Paul II), Divine Mercy Sunday. She died on October 5, 1938 at the aged of 33.

The Roman Catholic Church canonized Kowalska as a saint on 30 April 2000. The mystic is classified in the liturgy as a virgin and is venerated within the Church as the "Apostle of Divine Mercy".

## The Divine Mercy Message and Devotion

The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us – all of us. And, He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

**A** - Ask for His Mercy. God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repenting of our sins and asking Him to pour His mercy out upon us and upon the whole world.

**B** - Be merciful. God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to extend love and forgiveness to others just as He does to us.

**C** - Completely trust in Jesus. God wants us to know that all the graces of His mercy can only be received by our trust. The more we open the door of our hearts and lives to Him with trust, the more we can receive.



### The Mission of St. Faustina

The mission of St. Faustina was recorded in her Diary which she kept at the specific request of the Lord Jesus and her Confessors.

#### Task One

Reminding the world of the truth of our faith revealed in the Holy Scripture about the merciful love of God toward every human being.

#### Task Two

Entreating God's mercy for the whole world and particularly for sinners, among others through the practice of new forms of devotion to the Divine Mercy presented by the Lord Jesus, such as: the veneration of the image of the Divine Mercy with the inscription: **"Jesus, I Trust in You," the Feast of the Divine Mercy** celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter, **Chaplet to the Divine Mercy** and **Prayer at the Hour of Mercy** (3:00 p.m.). The Lord Jesus attached great promises to the above forms of devotion, provided one entrusted one's life to God and practiced active love of one's neighbour.

#### Task Three

The third task in Sr. Mary Faustina's mission consists in initiating the apostolic movement of the Divine Mercy which undertakes the task of proclaiming and entreating God's mercy for the world and strives for Christian perfection, following the precepts laid down by the Blessed Sr. Mary Faustina.



# How to Recite the Chaplet

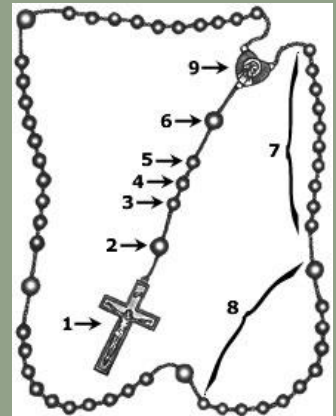
The Chaplet of Mercy is recited using ordinary Rosary beads of five decades. The Chaplet is preceded by two opening prayers from the Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska and followed by a closing prayer.

## 1. Make the Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## 2. Optional Opening Prayers

**St. Faustina's Prayer for Sinners** - O Jesus, eternal Truth, our Life, I call upon You and I beg Your mercy for poor sinners. O sweetest Heart of my Lord, full of pity and unfathomable mercy, I plead with You for poor sinners. O Most Sacred Heart, Fount of Mercy from which gush forth rays of inconceivable graces upon the entire human race, I beg of You light for poor sinners. O Jesus, be mindful of Your own bitter Passion and do not permit the loss of souls redeemed at so dear a price of Your most precious Blood. O Jesus, when I consider the great price of Your Blood, I rejoice at its immensity, for one drop alone would have been enough for the salvation of all sinners. Although sin is an abyss of wickedness and ingratitude, the price paid for us can never be equalled. Therefore, let every soul trust in the Passion of the Lord, and place its hope in His mercy. God will not deny His mercy to anyone. Heaven and earth may change, but God's mercy will never be exhausted. Oh, what immense joy burns in my heart when I contemplate Your incomprehensible goodness, O Jesus! I desire to bring all sinners to Your feet that they may glorify Your mercy throughout endless ages (*Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska*, 72).



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.

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You!  
(Repeat three times)

## 3. Our Father

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, Amen.

## 4. Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death, Amen.

## 5. The Apostles' 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 rose 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.

## 6. The Eternal Father

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.

## 7. On the 10 Small Beads of Each Decade

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

## 8. Repeat for the remaining decades

Saying the "Eternal Father" (6) on the "Our Father" bead and then 10 "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion" (7) on the following "Hail Mary" beads.

## 9. Conclude with Holy God (Repeat three times)

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

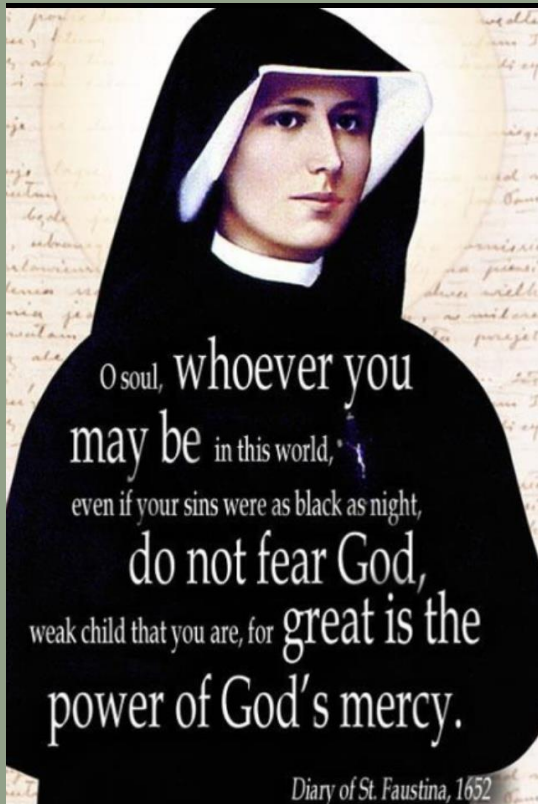
## 10. Optional Closing Prayers

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.

O Greatly Merciful God, Infinite Goodness, today all mankind calls out from the abyss of its misery to Your mercy — to Your compassion, O God; and it is with its mighty voice of misery that it cries out. Gracious God, do not reject the prayer of this earth's exiles! O Lord, Goodness beyond our understanding, Who are acquainted with our misery through and through, and know that by our own power we cannot ascend to You, we implore You: anticipate us with Your grace and keep on increasing Your mercy in us, that we may faithfully do Your holy will all through our life and at death's hour. Let the omnipotence of Your mercy shield us from the darts of our salvation's enemies, that we may with confidence, as Your children, await Your [Son's] final coming — that day known to You alone. And we expect to obtain everything promised us by Jesus in spite of all our wretchedness. For Jesus is our Hope: through His merciful Heart, as through an open gate, we pass through to heaven (*Diary*, 1570).

## Extraordinary Graces

### What graces are available and how do we receive them?



In her *Diary*, St. Faustina records a special promise given to her by Jesus. He told her to communicate it to the whole world: **My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy** (699).

In three places in her *Diary*, St. Faustina records our Lord's promises of specific, extraordinary graces: **I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy** (1109).

**Whoever approaches the Fountain of Life on this day will be granted complete forgiveness of sins and punishment** (300).

**The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion will obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment** (699).

To receive these graces, the only condition is to receive Holy Communion worthily on Divine Mercy Sunday (or the Vigil

celebration) by making a good confession beforehand and staying in the state of grace and trusting in His Divine Mercy.

By these conditions, our Lord is emphasizing the value of Confession and Holy Communion as miracles of mercy. The Eucharist is Jesus, Himself, the Living God, longing to pour Himself as Mercy into our hearts.

In addition, our Lord says through St. Faustina that we are to perform acts of mercy:

**"Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, but there must also be acts of mercy"** (742).

**"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).

The worthy reception of the Eucharist on Divine Mercy Sunday is sufficient to obtain the extraordinary graces promised by Jesus. A plenary indulgence, obtained by fulfilling the usual conditions, also is available.