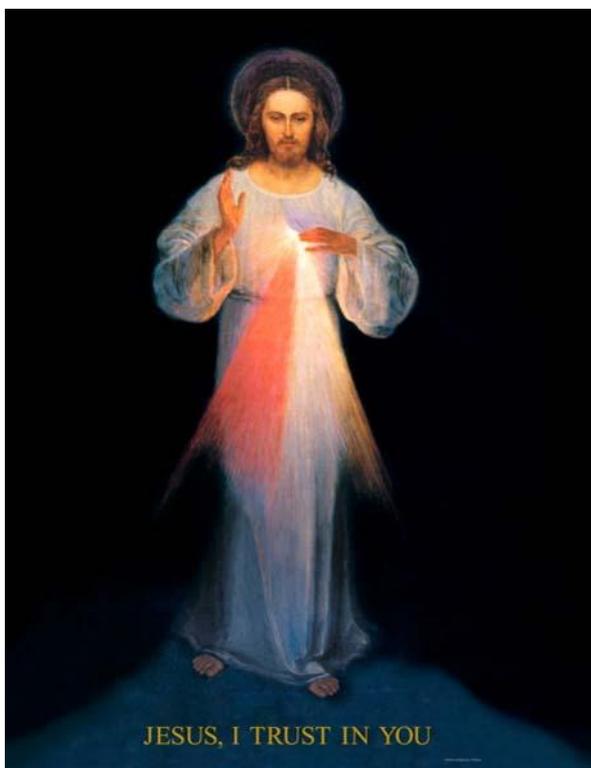


*Divine Mercy*  
*Sunday*  
*Prayer Service*



***(Entrance Procession & Opening Song)***

## **I. Introductory Rites**

### ***A. GREETING***

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

*All: Amen.*

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

*All: And with your spirit.*

### ***B. Invitation to Prayer***

Dear friends in Christ, the Lord is full of mercy and compassion. As we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday, we rejoice in the Lord's outpouring of forgiveness and healing. Through our baptism, we share in the death of Christ and were buried with Him. May we also come to share in His Resurrection.

### ***C. 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, and we ask you to look kindly upon them. Help us 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.*

## II. Liturgy of the Word

### ***A. 1<sup>st</sup> Reading***

A reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus

3:3-8

Brothers and sisters, for we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, deluded, slaves to various desires and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful ourselves and hating one another.

But when the kindness and generous love of God our savior appeared, not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of his mercy, he saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the holy Spirit, whom he richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

This saying is trustworthy. I want you to insist on these points, that those who have believed in God be careful to devote themselves to good works; these are excellent and beneficial to others.

**The Word of the Lord.**

### ***B. Responsorial Psalm (118)***

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

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

Let those who fear the Lord say, "His mercy endures forever." **R.**

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.**

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.**

## ***C. Gospel***

### **A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke**

**15:11-32**

Then he said, "A man had two sons, and the younger son said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of your estate that should come to me.' So the father divided the property between them. After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings and set off to a distant country where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation. When he had freely spent everything, a severe famine struck that country, and he found himself in dire need. So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens who sent him to his farm to tend the swine. And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed, but nobody gave him any. Coming to his senses he thought, 'How many of my father's hired workers have more than enough food to eat, but here am I, dying from hunger. I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers."'"

So he got up and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him, and was filled with compassion. He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him. His son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son.' But his father ordered his servants, 'Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Take the fattened calf and slaughter it. Then let us celebrate with a feast, because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again; he was lost, and has been found.' Then the celebration began. Now the older son had been out in the field and, on his way back, as he neared the house, he heard the sound of music and dancing. He called one of the servants and asked what this might mean. The servant said to him, 'Your brother has returned and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.' He became angry, and when he refused to enter the house, his father came out and pleaded with him.

He said to his father in reply, 'Look, all these years I served you and not once did I disobey your orders; yet you never gave me even a young goat to feast on with my friends. But when your son returns who swallowed up your property with prostitutes, for him you slaughter the fattened calf.' He said to him, 'My son, you are here with me always; everything I have is yours. But now we must celebrate and rejoice, because your brother was dead and has come to life again; he was lost and has been found.'"

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

## ***D. 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]**

# III. Exposition and Adoration

## ***A. Exposition***

*The presiding minister, wearing cope, brings the Blessed Sacrament to the Altar and places it in the monstrance. As the presiding minister prepares the Eucharist for adoration, the following is sung.*

### ***Song: O Saving Victim***

O saving Victim, open wide  
The gate of heav'n to us below,  
Our foes press on from ev'ry side;  
Your aid supply, your strength bestow

To your great name be endless praise,  
Immortal Godhead, One in Three;  
O grant us endless length of days  
In our true native land with thee. Amen.

*The presiding minister kneels before the altar and incenses the Blessed Sacrament. The song is concluded.*

## ***B. Chaplet of The Divine Mercy (sung)***

*The presiding minister, kneeling in front of the Blessed Sacrament, begins the Chaplet. The Our Father, Hail Mary, and Creed will be recited and the rest of the chaplet 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.

## MEDIATION SONG “DIVINE MERCY FLOOD MY SOUL”

I knelt before Him one stormy night  
His Face was adorned in a golden light  
I felt so unworthy, I want to run and hide  
But His gaze was so intense I felt paralyzed

Divine Mercy  
like a river, oh, flood my soul  
wash me clean, and make me whole  
Divine Mercy  
like a river, oh, flood my soul  
wash me clean, and make me whole

His Light was so brilliant It melted me  
reaching to the deepest caverns of my soul

I felt so bare, unadorned in His sight  
afraid, yet longing to be whole

Divine Mercy  
like a river, oh, flood my soul  
wash me clean, and make me whole  
Divine Mercy  
like a river, oh, flood my soul  
wash me clean, and make me whole

All I could see, all I could feel  
was swept away in a river of His love  
I felt so weak, rested in His arms  
washed clean, His Gaze now feels so warm

### ***C. Litany in Praise of The Divine Mercy***

*The presiding minister, kneeling in front of the Blessed Sacrament, leads the assembly in praying the Litany of The Divine Mercy.*

Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy  
Christ, hear us  
God, the Father of heaven  
God the Son, Redeemer of the world  
Holy Trinity, One God

*Lord, have mercy  
Christ, have mercy  
Lord, have mercy  
Christ, graciously hear us  
have mercy on us  
have mercy on us  
have mercy on us*

Divine Mercy, gushing forth from the bosom of the Father     *I trust in You*  
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,  
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

*spare us, O Lord*

Lamb of God, who take away the sins  
of the world

*graciously hear us, O Lord*

Lamb of God, who take away the sins  
of the world

*have mercy on us*

Let us pray. Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasure of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly on 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. Grant this through Christ the Lord.  
**Amen.**

## ***D. Prayer of Entrustment***

*The presiding minister leads the assembly 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 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.

## ***E. Veneration of the Divine Mercy Image***

*The assembly comes forward to venerate the sacred image.*

*{To venerate a sacred image simply means to perform some act or make some gesture of deep religious respect toward it because of the person whom it represents - our Most Merciful Savior. Please process up to the image of Divine Mercy to kiss it or another appropriate act of devotion.}*

*The song "Come to My Mercy" will be played as the assembly comes forward to venerate the sacred image.*

# Song "Come to My Mercy"

By Stephen DeCesare

In Poland 1931, Sister Faustina had a vision of Jesus Christ who gave to her a means of salvation. He asked her to paint an image with the phrase "Jesus, I Trust in You," and told her that to save the world want we all must do.

Come to my mercy,  
You will find a shelter there.  
Just put your trust in me  
You'll have no need to fear.

Come to my mercy,  
Let it enter your soul.  
I will refuse you nothing,  
My love should make you whole.

Those who venerate this image  
And listen to my voice,  
I will bestow many graces,  
And their hearts will rejoice.

So come to my mercy  
where you will be reconciled.  
Come to my mercy, come my child.

I promise the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over its enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. How I myself will defend it as my own worry. The two rays denote blood and water. The pale ray stands for the water that makes souls

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, which my agonized heart was opened by a lance on the cross. By the means of this image I shall be granting many graces, so every soul will have access to it.

Eternal Father I offer to the soul and divinity of your dearly beloved Son our Lord Jesus Christ in atonement for our sins and the sins of the whole world.

Come to my mercy,  
You will find a shelter there.  
Just put your trust in me  
You'll have no need to fear.

Come to my mercy,  
Let it enter your soul.  
I will refuse you nothing,  
My love should make you whole.

Those who venerate this image  
And listen to my voice,  
I will bestow many graces,  
And their hearts will rejoice.

So come to my mercy  
where you will be reconciled.  
Come to my mercy, come my child.

# **Mediation Song “I Place My Trust in You ”**

By Kitty Cleveland

I place my trust in you O Lord  
I place my trust in you O Lord  
And though I should walk in the valley of death  
I will fear no evil, for I place my trust in you

I place my faith in you O Lord  
I place my faith in you O Lord  
And though I should walk in the valley of death  
I will fear no evil, for I place my faith in you

I place my life in you O Lord  
I place my life in you O Lord  
And though I should walk in the valley of death  
I will fear no evil, for I place my life in you,  
I place my faith in you, I place my trust in you

## IV. Benediction

### ***A. Eucharistic Blessing***

*The presiding minister goes to the altar, genuflects, and then kneels. As he kneels, “Down in Adoration Falling” or another suitable Eucharistic song is sung and he incenses the Blessed Sacrament.*

*Down in adoration falling,  
This great Sacrament we hail;  
Over ancient forms of worship  
Newer rites of grace prevail;  
Faith will tell us Christ is present,  
When our human senses fail.*

*To the everlasting Father,  
And the Son who made us free  
And the Spirit, God proceeding  
From them Each eternally,  
Be salvation, honor, blessing,  
Might and endless majesty  
Amen*

*After the hymn is finished, he rises and says:*

Let us pray.

*After a brief period of silence, the presiding minister continues:*

Lord Jesus Christ, you gave us the Eucharist as the memorial of your suffering and death. May our worship of this sacrament of your body and blood help us to experience the salvation you won for us and the peace of the kingdom where you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **All: Amen.**

*After the prayer, the presiding minister puts on the humeral veil, genuflects and takes the monstrance. He makes the sign of the cross with the monstrance over those gathered, in silence.*

### ***B. Reposition***

*The Blessed Sacrament is removed from the monstrance and brought to the place of reservation. A hymn is sung, and the presiding minister and the servers genuflect and leave.*

***(Closing Song - Holy God We Praise Thy Name)***

