

## Notes from the Liturgist...

### HIS Unlimited Merciful LOVE

This weekend we celebrate "The Divine Mercy of Jesus, also popularly known as The Divine Mercy Sunday." It is a devotion of the Catholic Church to Jesus that was introduced by Saint Faustina Kowalska in the 1930's. This devotion to Jesus is mainly focus to the unlimited merciful love of God to humanity and let that overflowing love and mercy flow into own hearts especially those who are in need. The devotion and message of The Divine Mercy is from the diary or the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, a nun that was so obedient to her spiritual director that she opens her mind and heart to enter the mercy of God in her life.

"I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish," Jesus told Faustina, according to her diary, which has been studied and authenticated by the Church over several decades. "I also promise victory over enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I myself will defend it as My own glory." (Diary of Faustina, 48)

Jesus is shown in most versions as raising his right hand in blessing and pointing with his left hand on his chest from which flow forth two rays: one red and one white (translucent). The depictions often contain the message "Jesus, I trust in You!" (Polish: *Jezu ufam Tobie*). The rays streaming out have symbolic meaning: red for the blood of Jesus\_ (which is the Life of Souls), and pale for the water (which justify souls) (from Diary - 299). The whole image is symbolic of charity, forgiveness and love of God, referred to as the "Fountain of Mercy". According to the diary of St Faustina, the image is based on her 1931 vision of Jesus.

There are three main messages of Jesus to us humanity through this revelation. First is, **Ask for His Mercy**: God wanted us to continuously connecting with Him by praying to Him constantly, repenting, acknowledging our sins and ask for his overflowing mercy to pour out upon us and to the whole world. Second is, **Be Merciful**: God wants us to be merciful to others. He wants us to share that overflowing love, mercy and forgiveness that we received from Him to others. Third is, **Completely Trust in Jesus**: God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive from Him.

My dear friends, let us continue spending more time to learn more about the mercy of God because God is so merciful all the time and it's up to us if we are open hearted so that, that mercy will enter to our own lives, learn to trust in Jesus, and live your life as merciful to others, as Christ is merciful to you.

- Ace Tupasi