

"I desire that during [these] nine days you bring souls to the fountain of my mercy, that they may draw strength and refreshment and whatever grace they need in the hardships of life, and especially at the hour of death." (Diary of St. Faustina #1209)



## By Jennifer Lindberg©

Mercy is always on God's mind because it is His chief attribute. It is His saving grace extended to us every day in the Sacraments of the Catholic Church and in a very special way through the Divine Mercy Devotion.

The salvation of souls is the most precious gift that Christ,

Our Lady, and St. Joseph wants to give to God, the Father. St. Faustina was given instructions to bring souls to Christ by praying a nine-day novena starting on Good Friday and leading to Divine Mercy Sunday --the Sunday after Easter. This day is set apart by Christ where even more graces are bestowed upon mankind. Christ gave a great promise to those who keep the Feast of Divine Mercy.

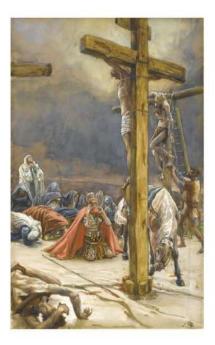
"The soul that will go to confession and receive Holy Communion [on the feast] will obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment." (Diary #699) This booklet will show how the greatest saints of Heaven, The Blessed Virgin Mary, and St. Joseph can help us in this regard, if we respond to Christ's call to St. Faustina. It also shows how St. Longinus, a Roman soldier, was used by God to open the side of Christ by piercing it with his lance, an act for which he became a physical recipient of the effects of the blood and water from the side of Christ. Through this Blood and Water flowed the graces of our Savior, becoming the life-saving rays of the Sacraments of the Eucharist and Baptism.

# Preparatory Prayers



➔: The Blessed Virgin, the Snow-White Lily, is first to raise the omnipotence of Your mercy. Her pure heart opens with love for the coming of the Word; She believes the words of God's messenger and is confirmed in trust.

**R**: To give worthy praise to the Lord's mercy, we unite ourselves with your Immaculate Mother, for then our hymn will be more pleasing to You, because She is chosen from among men and angels. Through Her, as through a pure crystal, Your mercy was passed to us. Through Her, man became pleasing to God; Through Her, streams of grace flowed down upon us. (Diary #1746)



# Prayer to St. Longinus

St. Longinus, pray for us, that we may humble ourselves before our King, Our Lord Jesus Christ, crucified on the Cross and not squander the graces poured forth on Good Friday so long ago, but which are yet brought present to us in every Mass. May the Blood and Water of our Lord's Divine Mercy wash us as they once did you. It was your lance that opened the side of Christ, but in lieu of the lance, we now ask that you present our prayers before the cross so as to open that same Sacred Heart of Jesus, to flood the world with His Divine Mercy for the salvation of souls.

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# St. Joseph and the Divine Hercy

St. Joseph urged St. Faustina to have a constant devotion to him and told her that he was supporting the work of Divine Mercy, and promised his special protection and help to those who promote the work of Divine Mercy. He requested the recitation of the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory Be and the Remember Prayer, which St. Faustina and her sisters prayed once a day.

#### The Remember Prayer

P: Remember, O Most pure spouse of Mary, and my dearly beloved guardian St. Joseph, that never was it know that anyone who invoked your care and requested your help was left without consolation.

 Inspired with this confidence, I come to you, and with all ardor of my spirit I commend myself to you. Do not reject my prayer, O Foster
Father of the Savior but graciously receive and answer it. Amen



# The Novena for Divine Mercy

## FIRST DAY - Good Friday

"Today, bring to Me: All Mankind, especially all sinners, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. In this way you will console me in the bitter grief into which the loss of souls plunges Me."

**X**: Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon all mankind, and especially upon poor sinners, all enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. For the sake of His Sorrowful Passion show us Your mercy, that we may praise the omnipotence of Your mercy for ever and ever. Amen

## SECOND DAY - Holy Saturday

"Today, bring to me the souls of Priests and Religious, and immerse them in My unfathomable mercy. It was they who gave Me strength to endure My Bitter Passion. Through them as through channels My mercy flows out upon mankind."

**1**: Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the company of chosen ones in Your vineyard—upon the souls of priests and religious; and endow them with the strength of Your blessing. For the love of the Heart of Your Son in which they are enfolded, impart to them Your power and light, that they may be able to guide others in the way of salvation and with one voice sing praise to Your boundless mercy for ages without end. Amen.

# THIRD DAY- Easter Sunday

"Today, bring to Me all devout and faithful souls, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. These souls brought Me consolation on the Way of the Cross. They were that drop of consolation in the midst of an ocean of bitterness.

3: Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon faithful souls, as upon the inheritance of Your Son. For the sake of His Sorrowful Passion, grant them Your blessing and surround them with Your constant protection. Thus, may they never fail in love or lose the treasure of the holy faith, but rather, with all the hosts of Angels and Saints, may they glorify Your boundless mercy for endless ages. Amen.

### FOURTH DAY-

Today, bring to me the pagans and those who do not yet know Me. I was thinking of them during My Bitter Passion and their future zeal comforted My Heart. Immerse them in the ocean of My mercy.

**R**: Eternal Father, turn Your Merciful gaze upon the souls of pagans and those who as yet do not know You, but who are enclosed in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Draw them to the light of the Gospel. These souls do not know what great happiness it is to love You. Grant that they, too, may extol the generosity of Your mercy for endless ages. Amen.

## FIFTH DAY -

"Today bring to Me the souls of those who have separated themselves from My Church, and immerse them in the ocean of My mercy. During My Bitter Passion they tore at My Body and Heart, that is My Church. As they return to unity with the Church My wounds heal and, in this way, they alleviate My Passion.

**R**: Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls who have separated themselves from your Church, who have squandered Your blessings and misused Your graces by obstinately persisting in their errors. Do not look upon their errors, but upon the love of Your Own Son and upon His Bitter Passion, which He underwent for their sake, since they too, are enclosed in His Most Compassionate Heart. Bring it about that they also may glorify Your great mercy for endless ages. Amen.

#### <u>SIXTH DAY –</u>

Today, bring to Me the meek and humble souls and the souls

of little children, and immerse them in My mercy. These souls most closely resemble My Heart. They strengthened Me during my bitter agony. I saw them as earthly Angels, who will keep vigil at My altars. I pour out upon them whole torrents of grace. Only the humble soul is capable of receiving My grace. I favor humble souls with My confidence.

**R**: Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon meek souls, upon humble souls, and upon little children who are enfolded in the abode which is the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. These souls bear the closest resemblance to Your Son. Their fragrance rises from the earth and reaches Your very throne. Father of mercy and of all goodness, I beg You by the love You bear these souls and by the delight You take in them: Bless the whole world, that all souls together may sing out the praises of Your mercy for endless ages.

#### <u>SEVENTH DAY –</u>

"Today, bring to Me the souls who especially venerate and glorify My mercy and immerse them in My mercy. These souls sorrowed most over My Passion and entered most deeply into My spirit. They are living images of My Compassionate Heart. These souls will shine with a special brightness in the next life. Not one of them will go into the fire of hell. I shall particularly defend each one of them at the hour of death.

**R**: Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls who glorify and venerate Your greatest attribute, that of Your fathomless mercy, and who are enclosed in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. These souls are a living Gospel; their hands are full of deeds of mercy, and their hearts, overflowing with joy, sing a canticle of mercy to You, O Most High! I beg You O God: show them Your mercy according to the hope and trust they have placed in You. Let there be accomplished in them the promise of Jesus, who said to them that during their life, but especially at the hour of death, the souls who will venerate this fathomless mercy of His, He, Himself, will defend as His glory.

#### EIGHTH DAY

"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.

**R:** 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 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.

#### NINTH DAY

"Today bring to Me souls who have become lukewarm and immerse them in the abyss of My mercy. These souls wound My Heart most painfully. My soul suffered the most dreadful loathing in the Garden of Olives because of lukewarm souls. They were the reason I cried out: "Father, take this cup away from Me, if it be Your will." For them the last hope of salvation is to run to My mercy.

**R**: Eternal Father, turn your merciful gaze upon lukewarm souls who are nonetheless enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Father of Mercy, I beg you by the bitter Passion of Your Son and by His three-hour agony on the Cross: let them, too, glorify the abyss of Your mercy. Amen.

# Deeds of Mercy



Jesus also asked for deeds of mercy for Divine Mercy Sunday. Traditionally, the Catholic Church outlines the

Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy. However, St. Faustina also encouraged a different and creative way to show mercy, the "one act of mercy a day," (Diary 1158)

- A merciful word
- Offering a prayer of mercy for someone wherever they are
- Forgiving and comforting each other
- Performing spiritual or corporal deeds of mercy because we will be judged by our deeds
- Praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet

Spiritual Works of Mercy	<b>Corporal Works</b>
Admonish the Sinner	Feed the Hungry
Instruct the Ignorant	Give Drink to the Thirsty
Counsel the Doubtful	Clothe the Naked
Bear Wrongs Patiently	Shelter the Homeless
Forgive Offenses Willingly	Visit the Sick & Imprisoned
Pray for the Living and the Dea	ad Bury the Dead
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