

## The Gift of Divine Mercy

In a vision to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska in 1935, a Polish nun, the Lord revealed a powerful prayer that He wanted everyone to say — the Chaplet of Divine Mercy — and he promised extraordinary graces to those who would recite it:

*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 were to recite this chaplet  
only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy... I desire  
to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My mercy...  
(Faustina DIARY, 687).*

The Divine Mercy message (of St Faustina) is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

**Ask for God's 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.

**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.

**Completely trust in Jesus:** God wants us to know that the graces of Divine Mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

This is why we pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

**Ask** for God's Mercy ... upon ourselves and the whole world

**Be** Merciful ... to ask God to help us to be merciful as he is merciful.

**Completely** trust in God's eternal Love, as incarnated in Jesus

# 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 Faustina 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

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.

(Repeat three times)

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

## 3. Our Father

## 4. Hail Mary

## 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 Prayer

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.

