



Minute of Mercy

MARY'S FIAT

Our Heavenly Mother Mary is the purest form of a model for service. It begins at the moment of her Fiat, her Yes, where she displays her complete and total love, trust, obedience and surrender to God.

Mary said, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord. May it be done to me according to your word." (Luke 1:38)

This is Mary's first action of mercy toward mankind. By giving birth to Christ, Our Savior, Mary helps secure a means for our salvation. Immediately following, Mary leaves in haste to visit her cousin Elizabeth. She is compelled by mercy and compassion for Elizabeth because she is advanced in years and realizes the difficulty it will be to carry and deliver a baby.

Another example of Mary seeing the needs of man and interceding for us in her merciful heart is the Wedding Feast of Cana. Not only does she intercede, but she shows us exactly how to follow her Son.

When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to Him, "They have no wine." His mother said to the servers, "Do whatever He tells you." (John 2:3, 5)

As with all mothers, she knows our needs before we do and comes to our aid to intercede for us before her Son. She binds our wounds with sweet soothing salve to soften our suffering. We must stay very close to our Heavenly Mother, especially through the most Holy Rosary. She will protect us and guide us to her Son. Through her example of virtues and intercession with Our Lord, she will obtain for us the grace and mercy we need to gain salvation.

As St. Maximilian Kolbe tells us, "God has willed to entrust the entire order of mercy to her."

Mercy in Action

*This week's **Mercy in Action** is for all of St. Peter Parish to pray a Hail Mary daily asking Mary to help all in St. Peter Parish to develop servant hearts of mercy.*