



Minute of Mercy

ST. FAUSTINA KOWALSKA

“I feel certain that my mission will not come to an end upon my death, but will begin.” - Faustina

Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska was chosen by the Lord to be his “secretary” of Mercy so that she could tell the whole world about His great message. She received extraordinary revelations from Jesus, of which she recorded into notebooks, and known today as The Diary of St. Faustina. Here is a brief bio of her journey to sainthood:

- 1905 August 25, Helen Kowalska is born in a small village of Glogowiec, Poland.
- 1912 At 7 years old, she hears for the first time a voice in her soul calling her to a more perfect way of life (Diary 1:3)
- 1925 After leaving and returning home several times for financial reasons; she is finally accepted into the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy.
- 1931 During her postulancy, she sees a vision of the Lord Jesus telling her to paint an image according to the pattern she sees. (Diary 1:18) This is known worldwide as the Divine Mercy image. A print of it is hanging in our very own St. Peter Catholic Church.
- 1933 She makes her perpetual vows.
- 1934 She suffers ill health, eventually leading to tuberculosis.

She tells her beloved confessor Fr. Sopocko in Kracow, “My one occupation is to live in the presence of my Heavenly Father.” On October 5, 1938, she enters into her most cherished wish, her heavenly reward. He notes, “She looked like an unearthly being,” and adds, “at that time, I no longer had the slightest doubt that what she had written in her diary about receiving Holy Communion from an Angel was really true.” (Memoirs of Father Sopocko, p5)

*In her diary, the Lord tells Sr. Faustina about her native country, **“I bear a special love for Poland, and if she will be obedient to My will, I will exalt her in might and holiness. From her will come forth the spark that will prepare the world for My final coming.”** (Diary 1732)*

On October 21, 1965, 27 years after her death, Archbishop Karol Wojtyla begins, with a solemn session in the Archdiocese of Kracow, the Informative Process relating to the life and virtues of Sister Faustina and she is worthy of the title Servant of God. It will be April 30, 2000 that Sister Faustina is canonized by none other than Pope John Paul II, now a venerated saint himself!

Mercy in Action

*This week’s **Mercy in Action** is for all of St. Peter Parish to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy at least once this week for those who are near death or who have recently passed. Copies of the Chaplet can be found on the Year of Mercy table in the back of church, along with other important information on the Year of Mercy.*