

PASTOR'S COLUMN

Divine Mercy Sunday

Divine Mercy Sunday. Some of the following is a repeat of a column I wrote last year.

In 1995, a woman approached me about having a celebration of Divine Mercy on the Second Sunday of Easter: a special Mass, a Novena, a Divine Mercy Image in Church, and Confessors to administer the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I had a hard time understanding her request since we celebrate God's mercy and the triumph of Jesus over sin at every Mass. Her request and her persistence caused me to do some research. I learned that Jesus, in mystical revelations in the 1930's to a Polish nun named Sr. Faustina Kowalska, directed her to have a Divine Mercy Feast Day set in the Church because people just didn't comprehend the incredible mercy of God for sinners.

In the year 2,000, Pope St. John Paul II declared the Second Sunday of Easter "Divine Mercy Sunday" in the Universal Church, fulfilling Jesus' request. He proclaimed a Divine Mercy Plenary (full) Indulgence (remission of Purgatory time) for those who confess their sins and fulfill the other requirements for an indulgence (See article in this bulletin).

So today, the Second Sunday of Easter, we celebrate the incomprehensibly generous mercy of God for sinners by virtue of the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus. God forgives our sins through the Sacrament of Reconciliation and even remits the punishment or consequences for sin in the life to come.

To celebrate the great mercy of God this Sunday, we will have several offerings: +Concelebrated Mass with Music accessible at 8 am on our Website, concluding with Video Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

+Live Blessing with the Eucharistic Monstrance from 10 am – 12 noon under the Port Cochere.

+Divine Mercy Chaplet accessible at 3 pm on our Website.

+Divine Mercy Confessions from 4-5 pm, both drive through under the Port Cochere and in church.

In addition, there will be Divine Mercy Confessions this Saturday from 3-4 pm, both drive-through under the Port Cochere and in church.

Wishing you a very blessed celebration and experience of Divine Mercy!

God bless,
Fr. Joe