Hello Divine Mercy Parish Family!
Happy Easter! Hope everyone is safe and healthy.

As you know, this Sunday we will celebrate the second Sunday of Easter, Divine Mercy Sunday. This amazing day of grace was given to the Church and to the world by the Lord through St. Faustina Kowalska at the beginning of the 20th century. The Lord told her that on the second Sunday of Easter the gifts of His infinite mercy would be open, that He would be particularly ready to extend His mercy to the world. How do you access this amazing gift? By going to Confession and receiving Holy Communion, one would be able to receive the complete forgiveness of sins and punishment due to them. Imagine a good, spiritual bath.

During this time, however, many of us are unable to make a good sacramental confession and receive the Holy Eucharist because of the need to remain at home to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Does this mean there is no mercy for us this weekend? Absolutely not! The Marians of the Immaculate Conception, who promote the message of Divine Mercy, recommend that we celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy in three steps: 1) Ask the Lord for forgiveness of all of your sins and resolve to make a good confession as soon as possible; 2) Make a spiritual Communion by telling the Lord we desire to receive Him in Holy Communion and we cannot wait to do so soon; 3) Tell the Lord that though we desire the graces of this amazing Feast. Please check out their recommendations in the link below.

Yes, we can still celebrate this beautiful Feast, our Feast, as a parish, for we are named after the Lord's amazing mercy, still at work in our world. How has the Lord shown you His mercy during these challenging times? How have you shown the Lord's mercy to others during this time? Let us know by commenting on Facebook or by sending your responses to info@divinemercyoak.org. By telling the other members of our parish family how the mercy of God has been present in our life, we can inspire each other to look for it and extend it in our own. I can't think of a better way of celebrating the Lord's mercy: giving Him thanks for it and being willing to give it to others.

Happy Feast of Divine Mercy,
Fr. Matthew