

Pause for Prayer

THE DIVINE MERCY

PART 3 OF A PRAYER 'HOW-TO'

UNPACKING DIVINE MERCY

You may recall from Part 1 that Sister Faustina – a simple uneducated nun in the 1930s – received extraordinary revelations – or messages – from our Lord Jesus. Jesus appeared to her and spoke with her many times. He asked Sister Faustina to record these experiences, which she compiled into notebooks totalling about 600 pages.

These notebooks are known today as the **Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska**, and the words contained within are God's loving message of Divine Mercy.

There are 5 points to the Divine Mercy devotion and we will look at the second one – the image of the Divine Mercy.



THE IMAGE OF DIVINE MERCY

The earliest element of the devotion shown to Sister Faustina was the painted image.

She writes:

"In the evening, when I was in my cell, I became aware of the Lord Jesus clothed in a white garment. One hand was raised in blessing, the other was touching the garment at the breast."

From the opening of the garment at the breast there came forth two large rays, one red and the other pale. In silence I gazed intently at the Lord; my soul was overwhelmed with fear, but also with great joy". (Diary,47)

"JESUS, I TRUST IN YOU"

Jesus told her, **"Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: 'Jesus I trust in You'. I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and throughout the world".** (Diary,47)

She obeyed and had it painted by an artist. It took him more than 12 tries before Faustina accepted it as satisfactory.

He also said, **"I promise that the soul that will venerate (to revere or honour) this image will not perish. I also promise victory over its enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I myself will defend it as My own glory."** (Diary,48)



"The two rays denote(stand for) Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized heart was opened by a lance on the Cross". (Diary 299)

"By means of this image I shall grant many graces to souls". (Diary 742)

"I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy.

**That vessel is this image with the signature:
Jesus, I trust in You."** (Diary 327)

