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DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

Starts GOOD FRIDAY, April 18 thru April 26, 2014

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Feast of Divine Mercy - Sunday, April 27th, 2014

“On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy.” (699)

Hour of Great Mercy – April 27th, 3 pm, 2014

“This is the hour of great mercy.... In this hour, I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me.”

THE CHAPLET OF MERCY

Using rosary beads, begin with: Our Father... Hail Mary... Apostles Creed.

On the large bead before each decade:

Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

On the ten small beads of each decade:

For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and the whole world.

Conclude with:

Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (three times)

On February 22, 1931 a young Polish nun, Sr. Faustina Kowalska, saw a vision of Jesus with rays of mercy streaming from His Heart. He told her to have an image painted to represent the vision and to sign it, “Jesus, I Trust in You!” Calling her the Apostle and Secretary of His mercy, He ordered her to begin writing a diary so others would come to know and trust in Him. In a series of revelations that followed between 1931 and 1938, He taught her that His mercy is unlimited and available even to the greatest sinners. He revealed special ways for people to respond to His mercy in their lives, and He gave her several promises for those who would trust in His mercy, and show mercy to others. By the time of Sr. Faustina’s death in 1939, Devotion to The Divine Mercy had already begun to spread throughout Eastern Europe. In 1940, Fr. Joseph Jarzebowski, a Polish Marian priest blacklisted by the Nazi SS, prayed to the merciful Savior to help him escape, vowing to spend the rest of his life spreading the Divine Mercy Devotion. He arrived safely on American soil in May 1941, and Marian communities in Detroit and Washington, DC, were soon distributing Mercy of God materials. In 1944, a group of Marians opened a new house and apostolate on Eden Hill in Stockbridge, Mass, and began spreading the Devotion on a large scale. By 1953, the Marian apostolate on Eden Hill had become the international center for the Divine Mercy Devotion, distributing more than 25 million pieces of mercy literature per year. In 1960, with donations from all over the world, the Marians of Eden Hill completed construction of a shrine to the Mercy of God. The shrine has now become the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy- spiritual home of the Association of Marian Helpers-and the apostolate has become the Marian Helps Center, a modern religious publishing house spreading devotion to the mercy of God and to Mary. In 1966, through the efforts of Karol Cardinal Wojtyla (Pope John Paul II), the informative process for beautification of Sr. Faustina was begun. The message of mercy is now being spread throughout the world, the process for Sr. Faustina’s beautification has begun, and her diary has become the handbook for the Devotion to the Divine Mercy.

FOR THE DIVINE MERCY NOVENA

It is greatly recommended that the following novena intentions and prayers be said together with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, since Our Lord specifically asked for a novena of Chaplets, especially before the Feast of Mercy.

Go to Mass and Confession 8 days before or after the Divine Mercy Novena. Recite the Chaplet + the intention for each day.

“The souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.” (699)

FIRST DAY, GOOD FRIDAY, 4/18/14

Today, bring me

ALL MANKIND, ESPECIALLY SINNERS

Most Merciful Jesus, whose very nature it is to have compassion on us and to forgive us, do not look upon our sins, but upon our trust which we place in Your infinite goodness. Receive us all into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart, and never let us escape from it. We beg this of You by Your love which unites You to the Father and the Holy Spirit.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon all mankind and especially upon poor sinners, all enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion show us Your mercy, that we may praise the infinite power for Your mercy for ever and ever. Amen.

SECOND DAY, HOLY SATURDAY, 4/19/14

Today, bring me

THE SOULS OF PREISTS & RELIGIOUS

Most Merciful Jesus, from whom comes all that is good, increase Your grace in men and women consecrated to your service, that they perform worthy works of mercy, and that all who see them may glorify the Father of Mercy who is in Heaven.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the company of chosen ones in Your vineyard – upon the souls of priests and religious – and endow them with the strength of Your blessing. For the love of the Heart of Your Son which they are enfolded, impart to them Your power and light, that they may be able to guide others in the way of salvation, and with one voice sing praise to Your boundless mercy for ages without end. Amen.

THIRD DAY, SUNDAY, 4/20/14

Today, bring me

ALL DEVOUT AND FAITHFUL SOULS

Most Merciful Jesus, from the treasury of Your mercy, You impart Your graces in great abundance to each and all. Receive us into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart and never let us escape from It. We beg this grace of You by that most wondrous love for the heavenly Father with which Your Heart burns so fiercely.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon faithful souls, as upon the inheritance of Your Son. For the sake of His sorrowful Passion grant them Your blessing and surround them with Your constant protection. Thus may they never fail in love or lose the treasure of the holy faith, but rather, with all the hosts of Angels and Saints, may they glorify Your boundless mercy for endless ages. Amen.

FOURTH DAY, MONDAY, 4/21/14

Today, bring me

THOSE WHO DO NOT BELIEVE IN GOD AND THOSE WHO DO NOT YET KNOW ME

Most Compassionate Jesus, You are the light of the whole world. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who as yet do not believe in God or as yet do not know You. Let the rays of Your grace enlighten them that they, too, together with us, may extol Your wonderful mercy, and do not let them escape from the abode which is Your Most Compassionate Heart.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls of those who do not believe in Your Son, and of those who as yet do not know You, but who are enclosed in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Draw them to the light of the Gospel. These souls do not know what great happiness it is to love You. Grant that they, too, may extol the generosity of Your mercy for endless ages. Amen.

FIFTH DAY, TUESDAY, 4/22/14

Today, bring me

THE SOULS OF SEPARATED BRETHREN

Most Merciful Jesus, Goodness Itself, You do not refuse light to those who seek it of You. Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who have separated from your Church. Draw them by Your light into the unity of the Church, and do not let them escape from the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart; but bring it about that they, too, come to glorify the generosity of Your mercy.

(Continued)

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls of those who are separated from Your Son's Church, especially those who have squandered Your blessings and misused Your graces by obstinately persisting in their errors. Do not look upon their errors, but upon the love of Your own Son and upon His bitter Passion, which He underwent for their sake, since they too, are enclosed in His Most Compassionate Heart. Bring it about that that they also may glorify Your great mercy for endless ages. Amen.

SIXTH DAY, WEDNESDAY, 4/23/14

Today, bring me

THE MEEK AND HUMBLE SOULS AND THE SOULS OF LITTLE CHILDREN

Most Merciful Jesus, You Yourself have said "Learn from Me for I am meek and humble of heart." Receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart all meek and humble souls and the souls of little children. These souls send all heaven into ecstasy, and they are the heavenly Father's favorites. They are a sweet-smelling bouquet before the throne of God; God himself takes delight in their fragrance. These souls have a permanent abode in Your Most compassionate Heart, O Jesus, and they unceasingly sing out a hymn of love and mercy.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon meek and humble souls and upon the souls of little children, who are enfolded in the abode which is the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. These souls bear the closest resemblance to Your Son. Their fragrance rises from the earth and reaches Your very throne. Father of mercy and of all goodness, I beg You by the love You bear these souls and by the delight You take in them: Bless the whole world, that all souls together may sing out the praises of Your mercy for endless ages. Amen.

SEVENTH DAY, THURSDAY, 4/24/14

Today, bring me

THE SOULS WHO ESPECIALLY VENERATE AND GLORIFY MY MERCY

Most Merciful Jesus, whose Heart is Love Itself, receive into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls of those who particularly extol and venerate the greatness of Your mercy. These souls are mighty with the very power of God Himself. In the midst of all afflictions and adversities, they go forward, confident of Your mercy. These souls are united to You, O Jesus, they carry all mankind on their shoulders. These souls will not be judged severely, but Your mercy will embrace them as they depart from this life. (Continued)

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls who glorify and venerate Your greatest attribute, that of Your fathomless mercy and who are enclosed in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. These souls are a living Gospel; their hands are full of deeds of mercy and their spirits, overflowing with joy, sing a canticle of mercy to You, O Most High! I beg You O God: show them your mercy according to the hope and trust that they have placed in You. Let there be accomplished in them the promise of Jesus, who said to them that during their life, but especially at the hour of death, the souls who will venerate this fathomless mercy of His, He, Himself, will defend as His glory. Amen.

EIGHTH DAY, FRIDAY, 4/25/14

Today, bring me

THE SOULS WHO ARE DETAINED IN PURGATORY

Most Merciful Jesus, You Yourself have said that You desire mercy; so I bring into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart the souls in Purgatory, souls who are very dear to You, and yet who must make retribution to Your justice. May the streams of Blood and Water which gushed forth from Your Heart put out the flames of the purifying fire, that in that place, too, the power of Your mercy may be praised.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon the souls suffering in Purgatory, who are enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. I beg you, by the sorrowful Passion of Jesus, Your Son, and by all the bitterness with which His Most Sacred Soul was flooded, Manifest Your mercy to the souls who are under Your just scrutiny. Look upon them in no other way than through the Wounds of Jesus, Your dearly Beloved Son: for we firmly believe that there is no limit to Your goodness and compassion. Amen.

NINTH DAY, SATURDAY, 4/26/14

Today, bring me

SOULS WHO HAVE BECOME LUKE WARM

Most Compassionate Jesus, You are Compassion itself. I bring lukewarm souls into the abode of Your Most Compassionate Heart. In this fire of Your pure love let these tepid souls, who, like corpses, filled You with such deep loathing, be once again set aflame. O Most Compassionate Jesus, exercise the omnipotence of Your mercy and draw them into the very ardor of Your love; and bestow upon them the gift of holy love, for nothing is beyond Your power.

Eternal Father, turn Your merciful gaze upon lukewarm souls who are nonetheless enfolded in the Most Compassionate Heart of Jesus. Father of Mercy, I beg You by the bitter Passion of Your Son and by His three hour agony on the Cross, let them too, glorify the abyss of Your mercy. Amen.