

A religious painting of Jesus Christ, likely the 'Heart of Jesus' by Philippe de Champaigne. He is depicted from the chest up, with long brown hair and a beard, wearing a blue robe over a red garment. His hands are raised in a gesture of blessing or prayer, with palms facing forward. A brilliant, golden light emanates from his heart, creating a powerful beam of light that extends downwards, filling the lower half of the image. The background is a soft, hazy blue.

Building Momentum

for Divine Mercy Sunday

A Parish Guide

MERCY  **SUNDAY**
momentum

MercySundayMomentum.org

The Feast of Mercy – Divine Mercy Sunday

"I desire that there be a Feast of Mercy"

Among all the elements of devotion to Divine Mercy requested by our Lord through St. Faustina, the Feast of Mercy holds first place. There were 14 revelations concerning the desired feast, an ancient feast that had been lost in the Church. Saint Faustina questioned Jesus about His insistence on the feast. His rather abrupt answer, recorded in Diary entry 341, should prompt one and all to do everything within their power to make this feast known and celebrated to the fullest.

"Jesus, I am very surprised that You bid me to talk about this Feast of Mercy, for they tell me that there is already such a feast and so why should I talk about it? And Jesus said to me, 'And who knows anything about this feast? No one! Even those who should be proclaiming My mercy and teaching people about it often do not know about it themselves. That is why I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it'".

In response, Mercy Sunday Momentum is the vehicle to help everyone prepare for, promote, and celebrate the Feast of Mercy. Sponsored by Mother of Mercy Messengers and the Marian Fathers at the National Shrine of Divine Mercy, MSM delivers the very best plan and resources to help build momentum toward the greatest celebration of the Feast of Mercy on Divine Mercy Sunday.

This Feast of Mercy Parish Guide contains

- Practical suggestions to Spark, Fuel, and Catapult momentum throughout Lent
- A variety of Sample Announcements for Bulletin, Website, and Pulpit
- Divine Mercy Sunday celebration ideas
- Downloadable graphics

Visit MercySundayMomentum.org to register your parish event on the world-wide public celebration map and sign up to receive weekly teachings, promotional videos, support product suggestions, and more.

Spark the Momentum

with advance notice and high visibility

Give parishioners many opportunities to learn about the extraordinary graces available on the Feast of Mercy. Begin promotion early and continue throughout Lent, so they have plenty of time to prepare to receive them.

Post

Provide parish office staff with the Sample Announcements to be posted in weekly bulletins, on the parish website, and on social media throughout Lent and up to Divine Mercy Sunday. Downloadable graphics and text are available in the Content Library of MercySundayMomentum.org.

Speak

Beginning on Ash Wednesday, make verbal announcements at all Masses. Let everyone know how Lenten practices prepare us for the celebration of the Resurrection and the Feast of Mercy.

Display

Display Divine Mercy Sunday posters in high-traffic areas for all to see. Refer to the resource section in this document for downloadable posters in English and Spanish.

Fuel the Momentum With Knowledge

provided by MSM

Take advantage of the materials and resources Divine Mercy experts have developed to educate your parishioners about the Feast of Mercy. The more they know, the more they will grow in understanding of the unfathomable mercy of God.

Register with MSM

Encourage all parish leaders and organizations to register with Mercy Sunday Momentum to receive information directly and easily pass it along.

Share Content

Share MSM videos, articles, and graphics on the parish website and social media.

Distribute Hard Copy Resources

Distribute Mercy Sunday flyers early and leave them in high-traffic areas, with approval of course!

Catapult the Momentum

with community prayer

Communal prayer is one of the greatest strengths of the Catholic Church. MSM facilitates ways and means for parishioners to pray privately, together at your parish, or virtually with others from across the country and beyond through weekly emails.

54-Day Rosary Novena for Mercy

-Ash Wednesday to Divine Mercy Sunday-

Monthly Online Group Holy Hour

-1st through the 9th-

The Novena to The Divine Mercy

-Beginning Good Friday-

Celebrate The Feast of Mercy

"It is important that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church will be called Divine Mercy Sunday"

-Pope St. John Paul II April 30, 2000

Considering the extraordinary graces outpoured upon the world on Divine Mercy Sunday, it stands that the Feast of Mercy should be celebrated with great enthusiasm in every parish and family. The Feast of Mercy encompasses the entire liturgical day. Special observances and activities are worthy and encouraged, yet the height of the celebration lies within each Holy Mass. Every Mass on the Second Sunday of Easter, beginning with the Anticipated Mass on Saturday, is a Mercy Sunday Mass, a time to proclaim, celebrate, receive, and reflect on the mercy of God. With that in mind, here are some suggestions to honor the Feast of Mercy all day long.

"On that day, priests are to tell everyone about My great and unfathomable mercy."

Homily Theme

Through its liturgy, proper to the Octave of Easter, the Church proclaims in various ways the Divine Mercy poured out by her Redeemer through His Word and Sacrament, especially through Baptism, Penance, and Eucharist. References to Water and Blood and the Holy Spirit contained in the prayers and readings speak of the sacraments of mercy. Through Baptism, Divine Mercy enters the human soul; in Penance, Divine Mercy heals and reconciles it; and the Eucharist transforms and divinizes the soul. Thus, the liturgy of the Second Sunday of Easter witnesses to the reality of Divine Mercy manifested in Christ and our cause for celebration.

Excerpt from Divine Mercy Sunday Guidelines and Reflections, Marian Press.

Public Veneration of the Image of Divine Mercy

- Solemn procession at the beginning of Mass
- Visible placement in the sanctuary
- Incensing
- Adorn with flowers, surround with candles



"I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it"

Personal Veneration

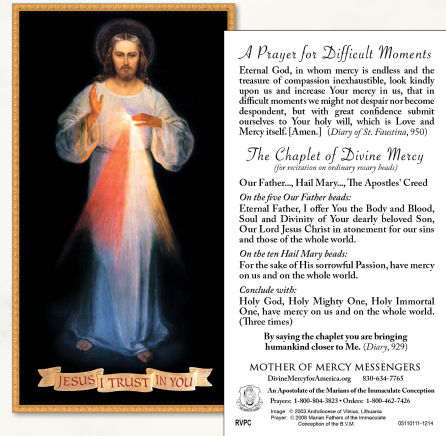
- Allow for personal and family prayer before an image
- Have kneelers in place, note cards, writing utensils, and a collection box for prayer petitions

"By means of this image I shall be granting many graces to souls; so let every soul have access to it."

Share the Image and Pray the Chaplet

Bless and distribute Divine Mercy prints or holy cards to each person or family. Encourage all to touch or kiss as a sign of affection and trust. Have extras on hand to be taken home to others.

Pray or sing the Chaplet of Divine Mercy before or after Mass.



"The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment."

Opportunity for Confession

Hopefully, most parishioners have availed themselves of the Sacrament of Penance before Easter to receive Jesus worthily on Divine Mercy Sunday. Yet, consider making provisions for those who have not. The Sacrament could be offered before regularly scheduled Masses or any extraordinary Mass planned.

"On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened."

Additional Ways to Celebrate

There are many creative ways to celebrate God's unfathomable mercy throughout the day. Solicit the involvement of all parish organizations, including the school children and youth. Ensure every soul in your parish experiences the joy of the Octave of Easter to the fullest.

- Hour of Mercy (3:00 pm) Observance with Mass or Holy Hour
- First Holy Communions or Confirmations
- Parish community dinner
- Mercy Sunday Sundae Social
- Parish Festival of Mercy

"The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy."

Sample Announcements

for Bulletin, Pulpit, and Website

Prepare NOW for The Greatest Day of Grace Coming Soon

We want to ensure our entire parish is aware of the tremendous graces offered to the whole world on Divine Mercy Sunday, (insert date), this year. Jesus told St. Maria Faustina, "This Feast emerged from the very depths of My mercy, and it is confirmed in the vast depths of My tender mercies. Every soul believing and trusting in My mercy will obtain it". Go to MercySundayMomentum.org to join the momentum, get inspiration, and help others discover the gift of Divine Mercy Sunday.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

Divine Mercy Sunday - (insert date) - An Outpouring of Tremendous Graces Will Happen

On April 30, 2000, Pope St. John Paul II announced the reemergence of an ancient feast in the Church now called Divine Mercy Sunday. He said, "There is nothing mankind needs more than Divine Mercy"; Through revelations given to St. Maria Faustina in the 1930's Jesus Himself repeatedly requested the celebration of this feast and promised an outpouring of unimaginable graces, including complete remission of sins and punishment, upon those who turn with trust to His mercy. Go to MercySundayMomentum.org to learn more about how to prepare for, celebrate, and share the good news of Divine Mercy Sunday.

Announcing Mercy Sunday Momentum

In 1931, Jesus requested the Feast of Divine Mercy and charged His Church to build MOMENTUM toward a renewed relationship with Him and acceptance of His Divine Mercy for the world. The Feast of Mercy is celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter, which this year falls on (Insert date). Mercy Sunday Momentum is a free program sponsored by Mother of Mercy Messengers from the National Shrine of Divine Mercy to help prepare for, promote, and celebrate this day of great grace. Sign up for weekly emails with short videos, testimonies, teachings, and more at mercysundaymomentum.org.

Complete Remission of Sins and Punishment and More on Divine Mercy Sunday

Yes, it's true! On the Feast of Mercy, (Insert date) this year, all your sins and all the punishment due for them (Purgatory time) can be completely wiped away. And not only that! Jesus also promises that on this day, "all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened", meaning all kinds of blessings such as physical and spiritual healings, reconciliations, financial solutions, and more. How do you obtain these gifts? How should you prepare for them, and how can you share this information? Go to MercySundayMomentum.org to register for free videos, downloads, and more.

**The Feast of Mercy is Approaching
(Insert date here)**

Please prepare to take full advantage of the great graces available on the Feast of Mercy for yourself, your family, and the whole world. Go to MercySundayMomentum.org to find out how.

The World Needs Peace. The World Needs the Feast of Mercy!

In the 1930's, Jesus revealed to St. Maria Faustina that He wishes to pour His mercy upon the whole world. He told her, "I do not want to punish aching mankind, but I desire to heal it, pressing it to My Merciful Heart. My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy". Prepare to take full advantage of the great graces available on the Feast of Mercy for yourself, your family, and the whole world. Go to MercySundayMomentum.org to find out how.

Now is the Time for Mercy – Accept this Offer from Heaven

Divine Mercy Sunday this year is (insert date). From the Diary of St. Faustina, Jesus promises: "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. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day all the divine floodgates through which graces flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet." Learn more at MercySundayMomentum.org

In Need of Peace & Healing? Coming to the World (insert date) - Divine Mercy Sunday

The first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, the most incredible day of grace of the year. Jesus told St. Faustina: On this day, ALL the Divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened." We encourage everyone to take full advantage of this gift of mercy for yourself, your family, our country, and the world. Go to MercySundayMomentum.org for more information and spread the news.

Save the Date! (insert date)

Celebrate the Greatest Day of Grace with Us at (insert your parish here)

(Your parish here) will be holding a special time of prayer and fellowship in celebration of the Feast of Mercy, (insert date, time, place, and details).

In the Diary of St. Faustina Jesus promises, "In this hour (3:00 pm), I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion. In this hour you can obtain everything for yourself and for others for the asking".

Divine Mercy Sunday Novena – Begins Good Friday

Join millions of faithful around the globe in the Divine Mercy Novena beginning on Good Friday. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is prayed for 9 days, with these intentions in mind: Day 1- all mankind, especially sinners; Day 2- the souls of priests and religious; Day 3- all devout and faithful souls; Day 4- those who do not believe in Jesus or do not know Him yet; Day 5- those who separated themselves from the Church; Day 6- meek and humble souls and souls of children; Day 7- souls who especially venerate and glorify Jesus' mercy; Day 8- souls who are in purgatory; Day 9- souls who have become lukewarm. To receive the daily prayers go to mercysundaymomentum.org to register.

Palm Sunday Weekend

Time Sensitive Notice! Only Two Weeks to the Greatest Day of Grace – Be Ready

Divine Mercy Sunday is the first Sunday after Easter, the greatest day of grace of the year. Official Church teaching states that those who worthily receive the Eucharist* with trust in God's mercy on this day and are merciful to others will obtain COMPLETE forgiveness of all sin and punishment. It is likened to a second baptism! In addition, Jesus promises, "ALL the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened." On this day, ask the Lord with trust for blessings, healings, reconciliations, etc. Go to mercysundaymomentum.org to learn more.

* To receive communion or Eucharist, in the Roman Catholic Church, one must be in a "state of grace," meaning one has not committed any "mortal sins" since last confessing. This requirement is drawn from an interpretation of 1 Corinthians 11:27-28 to not partake in an unworthy manner.

Easter Weekend

The Feast of Mercy is Next Weekend! Take Advantage of the Greatest Day of Grace!

Happy Easter! Did you know that Easter is an 8-day feast? Next weekend we celebrate the reason the Lord came to earth, suffered, died, and resurrected – to redeem our souls. On this day, the "greatest day of the feast," all sin and punishment can be wiped away by those who worthily receive the Eucharist, trust in the Lord's mercy, and are merciful to others. What could be a more extraordinary gift?? The Lord also generously answers many prayers. Every family needs God's mercy. Every family should take full advantage of what the Lord is offering the whole world at this time. See mercysundaymomentum.org for more information.

Divine Mercy Sunday

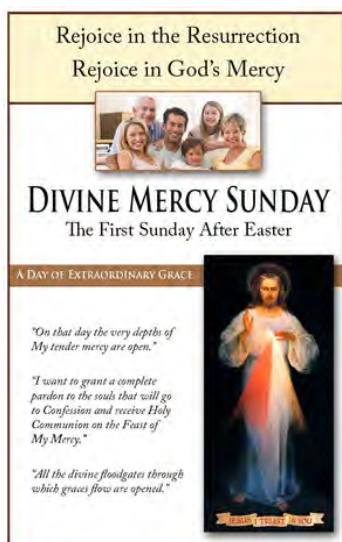
Today is the Feast of Mercy;

the day the Lord promises great graces for those who turn to Him with trust for mercy, forgiveness, healing, and restoration. Jesus told St. Faustina: "My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. 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." Ask for Mercy - Be Merciful to Others - Completely Trust in Jesus

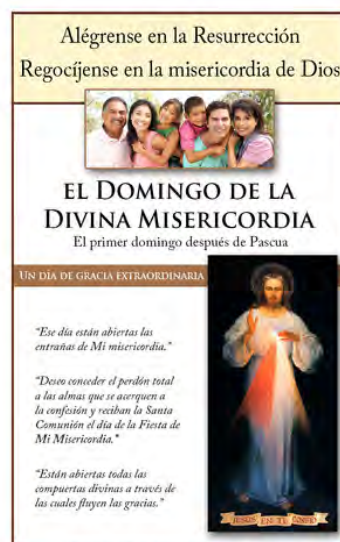
Free Downloads

Posters

11 x 17
and
18 x 24



English



Spanish

Promotional Graphics

For printed bulletins and posting on websites & social media



Find downloads in the Content Library at MercySundayMomentum.org.

Need More Resources?

Visit MercySundayMomentum.org