



Divine Mercy for Canada is an initiative driven to radically increase awareness of, and devotion to, Jesus, The Divine Mercy as a sure means of providing great benefit to souls in our country and throughout “the whole world.”

Why Divine Mercy for Canada?

Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska (1905-1938) was chosen by Jesus to be his Secretary of Mercy. He instructed her to write as much as she could about her experiences and all that He told her for the benefit of souls.

My daughter, be diligent in writing down every sentence I tell you concerning My mercy, because this is meant for a great number of souls who will profit from it. (Jesus to St. Faustina, Diary, 1142)

Several times she recorded being directed to pray in specific ways for her country and how by doing so blessings and graces were received by many. We learn that by means of devotion to the unfathomable Mercy of God incredible promises are given to us, promises that have been changing the lives of countless souls since they were first revealed to St. Faustina in the 1930's. It is through trust in this message and in these promises that we too may become evermore empowered to impact lives and the good of our country.

A Response to the Challenges Threatening the World Today



St. Faustina Kowalska

Divine Mercy for Canada responds to the ever growing need for hope, action and prayer to combat the evil threatening our families and world today. Following in the footsteps of Saint Faustina we find a path traced out for us employing the same prayers, promises and sacrifices for Canada that she was guided to offer for her motherland. In the manner of Saint Faustina, may we become ever better living vessels of Christ—truly **pleasing to God** in deed, word and prayer.

*“I understood that if it had not been for the prayers of souls that are **pleasing to God**, that whole nation [Russia] would have already been reduced to nothingness. Oh, How I suffer for that nation which has banished God from its borders!” (St. Faustina—December 16, 1936 Diary, 818)*

Nurturing Personal Holiness

A righteous and holy Canada begins with personal holiness. Entering the *School of St. Faustina* we are sure grow in grace as we acquire “the art of living in the spirit of childlike **trust toward God and mercy toward neighbor**” by means of these simple devout practices.

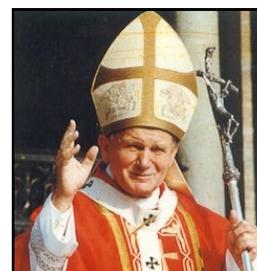
- * Consecration to the Blessed Virgin Mary
- * Spiritual reading and daily meditation
- * Reflecting on the mysteries of the rosary
- * Meditating on the Passion of Christ
- * Fervent celebration of the Holy Eucharist
- * Adoration of the Most Blessed Sacrament
- * Sincere and frequent Confession
- * Participating in retreats
- * Pondering and perceiving all the good that God has placed in the world and in our personal lives.

Praying for Our Country as St. Faustina Prayed for Hers

Saint Faustina often offered her daily sufferings and prayers to the Lord on behalf of her country. In addition to doing the same, may we also fulfill the specific novenas she was told to make for Poland for Canada Set a time with your family, friends or parish to join together in the effort to reap the most for souls. Beginning your novena(s) at the first of each month is a suggested plan, but any time will do.

Make a novena for your country.

- ◆ Daily hour of adoration (32, 33).
- ◆ Recitation of the *Litany of the Saints* (59).
- ◆ Novena of Holy Communions (325).
- ◆ Recitation of the *Chaplet of Mercy* in community in the chapel (714).



“There is nothing mankind needs more than Divine Mercy!”

- St. John Paul II -

Trusting the Promises of Jesus, The Divine Mercy

Jesus told St. Faustina, *“The graces of My mercy are drawn by means of one vessel only, and that is — trust. The more a soul trusts, the more it will receive (Diary, 1578).*

Recognizing our human weaknesses and sins, God is always ready to pour out His mercy upon us. Divine Mercy for Canada seeks to take full advantage of the gifts of grace and mercy available through devotion to The Divine Mercy and faith in His promises.

† The Feast of Mercy

Saint Faustina recorded 14 revelations concerning our Lord’s desire that this feast formally be established and celebrated the first Sunday after Easter each year. In *Diary* entry 699 Jesus tells us: *“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.”*

At the canonization of St. Faustina on April 30, 2000, Pope John Paul II made the proclamation for the establishment of this feast. Later that night he said it was the happiest day of his life! No doubt, it was because of the great promises this day holds in store for all who approach the Fount of Mercy for themselves, their families, friends and the whole world.

“The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day are opened all the divine floodgates through which graces flow.”

The Feast of Mercy offers us an opportunity to be completely cleansed in the Blood of the Lamb, totally reconciling us with the Father. We are made fresh and new. But “oceans of grace” are available not only for our spiritual needs but also for our temporal needs such as good jobs or grades, help with finances and relationships, good health and world peace. Celebrating this feast with contrite hearts, faith and trust, we can participate in the salvation of souls.

† The Image of The Divine Mercy

In 1931, Our Lord appeared to Saint Faustina and told her to have an image painted as she saw Him with the signature, “Jesus, I trust in You” (327). Jesus requested that this image be “venerated throughout the world” (47) and promised that it would be the source of great graces for souls and protect homes and cities where it was honored. *Diary* entry 570 promises and directs us:

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



Enthroning and venerating the image of Jesus in our homes, parishes, Catholic schools, hospitals and workplaces is one

sure way to bring Christ into our very midst. Billboards and banners in public view bless all who pass by. Blessed holy cards and framed images given to family and friends as gifts can be the source of conversion, reconciliation and healing of all kinds. Working to distribute, venerate and spread the knowledge of this Image’s power and glory will bless Canada with Divine Mercy.

† The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is a prayer of intercession prayed on ordinary rosary beads in as little as ten minutes, yet in *Diary* entry 1541 Jesus tells St. Faustina, *“My daughter, encourage souls to say the chaplet which I have given you. It pleases Me to grant everything they ask of Me by saying the chaplet. When hardened sinners say it, I will fill their souls with peace, and the hour of death will be a happy one.”*



Jesus asked St. Faustina to pray the Chaplet unceasingly and incessantly, and especially for the sick and dying. He continues, *“When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as the just Judge but as the Merciful Savior.”*

Prayerful recitation or singing of the Chaplet is a privilege we should embrace daily—as often as possible—for it can make a difference to souls for all eternity.

† The Hour of Great Mercy

Every day we can obtain great graces for souls, particularly poor sinners, by immersing ourselves in the Passion of Jesus at the three o’clock hour. *“At that moment [mercy] was opened wide for every soul. In this hour you can obtain everything for yourself and for others for the asking. I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My passion”* (1572, 1320). Let not one day go by without recalling the suffering and death of Our Lord, placing ourselves at the foot of the Cross, begging mercy for us and the whole world. Jesus will hear us and answer our prayers. This is His promise and this is our hope!

“I rejoice that they ask for much, because it is My desire to give much, very much.” (Jesus to St. Faustina, *Diary*, 1578)

Prayer for Divine Mercy for America

May Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, protect and guide the Divine Mercy for America Campaign to help bring about the re-Christianization of our nations, respecting the dignity of all life, upholding the sanctity of traditional marriage and eliminating the threat to religious freedom—the glory of God and the salvation of souls.
+ Bishop Emeritus Rene H. Gracida



May God Bless the Americas!