



EADM Carolinas

Sanctuaries of The Divine Mercy

St. Matthew Catholic Church
8015 Ballantyne Commons Pkwy
Charlotte, NC 28277



Jesus, I Trust in You

For God and Souls Summer 2018 Newsletter Editor Ralph Sullivan



Divine Mercy Sunday

Holy Hour of Great Mercy

virtually filled Saint Matthew's Sanctuary for the 3rd year in a row. It is indicative of the many blessings received when souls come to seek His Mercy. Father Pat and Deacon Gary officiated. Fervent worshipers clamored for a blessing with the 1st class relic of St. Faustina.

Accounts of witness statements are included in this edition which illustrate how trust is rewarded when concerns are turned over to His merciful care.

“To The soul that seeks My mercy in this hour, it will be granted” - testimony of Perri Bomar

As a convert to Catholicism in 2015, I was drawn to Divine Mercy because it focused on the Resurrection of Jesus and his promises to be with us always through the Holy Spirit. Also, it included devotion to the both Holy Mother and Jesus.

Two years ago, I joined a cenacle. As a new Catholic, I learned that sacramentals assist us in remembering the Holy Trinity, the Virgin Mary and Jesus. As a sacramental, types of rosaries can be overwhelming. Some have medallions and others none. The focus draws us to Jesus Christ our Lord and there are hundreds of manifestations to the Holy Mother and to Saints. My first rosary was purchased 10 years before I became Catholic because the color is garnet/ruby color and represented my Birthday. I used it during prayer time to remember various prayer intentions. Since confirmation, I have acquired numerous rosaries. Some, I purchased and others were given to me. The decade beads range from glass, plastic, wood, precious stones and crystal. Yet, I longed for one specific to Divine Mercy especially for Cenacle meetings and daily reciting the Chaplet.

In my heart I would sometimes say. “Lord, I’d like a DM rosary from Poland someday.” With a sigh, I would think. Well, Perri you will never own one.”

On Divine Mercy Sunday April, 8 this year, my small role was greeting, handing and out collecting programs. During the blessing with the Relic of Saint Faustina, I went inside the sanctuary to greet people who were leaving the blessing to collect the programs for recycling for next year. I was nonchalantly standing in the aisle near the exit into the “lobby”. A very reverent lady who was just leaving the line for the Saint Faustina Relic blessing approached me. “I smiled and she gave me her program. She held up a red rosary and said: *“The Lord told me to give you this. It’s a Divine Mercy/Saint Faustina relic and was just blessed with her relic.”* She said. *[(I think.). It’s from Poland. I want you to have it. There is one condition- you must pray for my son Dennis.”*

I was speechless, stunned, overjoyed and grateful! A red wooden bead rosary with the Divine Mercy Image on one side and Sister Faustina’s photo on the other side! It had been blessed and is a third class relic! I had never seen the lady before! To me it was a miracle happening during the Divine Mercy Hour. My husband’s patron saint is Saint Dennis and one of his son’s names is Dennis. The presence of the Divine Image helps me to focus on the Blood and Water Jesus shed for us. It also reminds me to trust in Him and sense his right hand blessing us.

I believe the Holy Spirit had intervened through a worshiper at the Divine Mercy Hour and blessing. I had experienced an answer to an un-verbalized prayer from a complete stranger at my third Divine Mercy Hour. Romans 8:26-27 says that... *“the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words... the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.”*

Finally, if she is here today, you were serving the Lord in the role of an earthly angel. Words cannot express my deep appreciation and joy. I use the rosary daily when praying the Chaplet as reminders of the Mercy of Jesus and the life and sacrifice of Sr. Faustina.

Blessing at Life’s Final Moments

By: Lorraine Carpenter

My mom always had a strong devotion to praying the Divine Mercy Chaplet and rosary and I could remember her praying it daily and especially at life’s challenging moments. In February of 2007 my mom was in the hospital and was nearing the end of her life. Her dear friend at the time gave my sister and I the Divine Mercy chaplet prayer and asked us to pray the prayer by my mom’s bedside. My mom had not been responsive for several days but together my sister and I began to pray the chaplet for my mom. Although my mom could not speak to us we believe she heard the words of the chaplet prayer as we began to see a peaceful look on my mom’s face while in prayer.

My mom passed within an hour of praying the chaplet and God truly gave my sister and I a gift that day – seeing the peaceful look on my mom’s face as she transitioned from her earthly life to her eternal life – an image that will remain with me always.

I am blessed to be a part of the Divine Mercy devotion - partly to honor my mom - but mostly because the devotion has blessed my life abundantly. It is a blessing for me to travel to Charlotte to be a part of my cenacle groups and to participate in all the different aspects of Divine Mercy. Father Pat once asked me why I travel such a distance to be a part of divine mercy and my response was “there is nowhere else I would rather be” – my faith life, my prayer life and devotion to divine mercy have been greatly enriched and all those whom I have had the pleasure to get to know have blessed my life so. I am grateful and blessed to know each of you. Thank you for sharing this devotion with me.

Intention for June 7th Divine Mercy Holy Hour is Visit the Sick

Divine Mercy Holy Hour is on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 pm in the Daily Mass Chapel. Deacon Gary Schrieber leads the celebration which includes Scripture, entries from St. Faustina's diary, a recitation of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and veneration of St. Faustina's first-class relic. The next holy hour is June 7th at 7:30pm. The intention for this month is *Visit the Sick*. The celebration is sponsored by Cenacles of Divine Mercy.

Father Ken Geraci to Direct Divine Mercy 2018 Retreat



Fathers of Mercy Chapel of Divine Mercy, Auburn Ky





**Father Ken Geraci, Fathers of Mercy,
directs Divine Mercy Retreat in Thanksgiving
to all who encourage others to seek His Mercy.**

June 9, 2018—9 am—to 12 noon

St. Matthew Catholic Church

8015 Ballantyne Commons Parkway, Charlotte NC 28277

Mass, coffee, etc., Welcome by Deacon Gary, Two talks by Father
Geraci, resource table, Good Will offering,

No Registration Required