



EADM Carolinas

Cenacles of The Divine Mercy

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Jesus, I Trust in You

Summer Edition Newsletter

For God and Souls

June 2020

Pope Francis adds St. Faustina Kowalska's feast day to Roman Calendar

As reported by the Catholic News Agency on May 18, 2020

Pope Francis has decreed that St. Faustina Kowalska's feast day be added to the Roman Calendar as an optional memorial to be celebrated by all on October 5.

The Vatican Congregation for Divine Worship issued the decree May 18, the 100th anniversary of the birth of St. John Paul II, who canonized St. Faustina on April 13, 2000, making her the first saint of the new millennium.

The decree said that Pope Francis had taken the step in response to petitions from pastors, religious men and women and associations of the faithful, and "having considered the influence exercised by the spirituality of St. Faustina in different parts of the world."

It said that he had therefore "decreed that the name of St. Maria Faustina (Helena) Kowalska, virgin, be inscribed in the General Roman Calendar and that her optional memorial be celebrated by all on 5 October."

The decree, signed by the Congregation's prefect Cardinal Robert Sarah and secretary Archbishop Arthur Roche, emphasized St. Faustina's impact on the global Church.

It said: "In the Diary of her soul, the sanctuary of her encounter with the Lord Jesus, she herself recounts what the Lord worked in her for the benefit of all: listening to Him who is Love and Mercy she understood that no human wretchedness could measure itself against the mercy which ceaselessly pours from the heart of Christ. Thus she became the inspiration for a movement dedicated to proclaiming and imploring Divine Mercy throughout the whole world."

The decree continued: "Canonized in the year 2000 by St. John Paul II, the name of Faustina quickly became known around the world, thereby promoting in all the parts of the People of God, Pastors and lay faithful alike, the invocation of Divine Mercy and its credible witness in the conduct of the lives of believers."



From the Diary of St. Faustina

The flames of mercy are burning me. I desire to pour them out upon human souls. Oh what pain they cause Me when they do not want to accept them! My daughter do whatever is in your power to spread devotion to My mercy. I will make up for what you lack. Tell mankind to snuggle close to My merciful Heart and I will fill it with peace.

Tell all people my daughter that I am love and mercy itself. When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls.

(Diary No. 1074)

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Letter by Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI for the 100th birthday of St. John Paul II



Following are excerpts from the letter

Vatican City

4 May 2020

For the Centennial of the Birth of Saint Pope John Paul II

When Cardinal Wojtyła was elected Successor of St. Peter on 16 October 1978, the Church was in a dramatic situation.

...

Yet, from the first moment on, John Paul II aroused new enthusiasm for Christ and his Church. His words from the sermon at the inauguration of his pontificate: “Do not be afraid! Open, open wide the doors for Christ!” This call and tone would characterize his entire pontificate and made him a liberating restorer of the Church.

...

Pope John Paul II died in the first moments of the newly established Feast of Divine Mercy. Let me first add a brief personal remark that seems an important aspect of the Pope’s nature and work. From the very beginning, John Paul II was deeply touched by the message of Faustina Kowalska, a nun from Kraków, who emphasized Divine Mercy as an essential center of the Christian faith. She had hoped for the establishment of such a feast day. After consultation, the Pope chose the Second Sunday of Easter.

...

When John Paul II took his last breaths on this world, the prayer of the First Vespers of the Feast of Divine Mercy had just ended. This illuminated the hour of his death: the light of God’s mercy stands as a comforting message over his death. In his last book *Memory and Identity*, which was published on the eve of his death, the Pope once again summarized the message of Divine Mercy. He pointed out that Sister Faustina died before the horrors of the Second World War but already gave the Lord’s answer to all this unbearable strife. It was as if Christ wanted to say through Faustina: “Evil will not get the final victory. The mystery of Easter affirms that good will ultimately be victorious, that life will triumph over death, and that love will overcome hatred”.

...

Let us leave open the question of whether the epithet “the great” will prevail or not. It is true that God’s power and goodness have become visible to all of us in John Paul II. In a time when the Church is again suffering from the oppression of evil, he is for us a sign of hope and confidence.

Dear Saint John Paul II, Pray for us!

Benedict XVI

St. Faustina Feast Day Continued

On April 19, Pope Francis celebrated Divine Mercy Sunday at Santo Spirito in Sassia, a church a short walk from St. Peter's Basilica. The Mass marked the 20th liturgical anniversary of St. Faustina Kowalska's canonization and the official institution of the feast of Divine Mercy Sunday by St. John Paul II.

John Paul II's life was intimately connected to the Divine Mercy devotion. He died April 2, 2005, the vigil of Divine Mercy Sunday. He was beatified on Divine Mercy Sunday in 2011 and canonized on Divine Mercy Sunday in 2014.



St John Paul II Prayer to Mary

May the Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, be also mother of the domestic church.

Through her maternal help, may every Christian family truly become a little church which reflects and relives the mystery of the Church of Christ.

May you who are the servant of the Lord, be our example of a humble and generous welcome of the will of God!

You who are the mother of sorrows at the foot of the cross, be there to lighten our loads, and wipe away the tears of those afflicted by family difficulties.

May Christ the Lord, King of the Universe, King of families, be present, as at Cana, in every Christian home, to communicate his light, joy, serenity, and strength.

May every family generously add its share to the coming of his kingdom on earth.

To Christ and to you, Mary, we entrust our families. Amen.

Additional Prayer Opportunities*

*The Pope has invited everyone to pray the rosary daily for an end to the coronavirus.

*Say the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy for an end to this pandemic.



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FAITH, HOPE AND TRUST

During the challenges of life
May faith, hope and trust be your source of strength
Faith, our belief that with God we can go forward
Hope, our source of strength that we cling to
Trust that with God near we are never alone
As you journey through life keep faith, hope and trust close
And know that God walks life's challenging moments with us
And if we lose our ability to go forward, God will carry us and remain near.

By Lorraine Carpenter

