of all our wretchedness. For Jesus is our Hope: through His merciful Heart as through an open gate, we pass through to heaven (*Diary*, 1570). Amen.

HOW TO RECITE THE CHAPLET OF MERCY

The Chaplet of Mercy is recited using ordinary rosary beads of five decades. At the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Massachusetts, the chaplet is preceded by two opening prayers from the Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska and followed by a closing prayer.

THE CHAPLET OF MERCY AS A NOVENA

In addition to the Novena to Divine Mercy, which our Lord gave to St. Maria Faustina for her own personal use, He revealed to her a powerful prayer that He wanted everyone to say — the Chaplet of Mercy. Saint Faustina prayed the chaplet almost constantly, especially for the dying, and the Lord urged her to encourage others to say it, too, promising extraordinary graces to those who would recite this special prayer.

The chaplet can be said anytime, but the Lord specifically asked that it be recited as a novena, especially on the nine days before the Feast of Mercy. And He promised, "By this Novena (of Chaplets) I will grant every possible grace to souls" (796).

We can pray this Novena of Chaplets for our own personal intentions, or we can offer it together with the Novena to Divine Mercy for the daily intentions dictated by our Lord to St. Faustina (see reverse side of this pamphlet).

Our Lord said to St. Faustina:

Encourage souls to say the chaplet which I have given you. ... Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. ... 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. ... Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even

if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy. I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My mercy. ... Through the Chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will (687, 1541, 1731).

HOW TO PRAY THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

- I. Make the Sign of the Cross.
- 2. Say the optional Opening Prayer.
- 3. Say the "Our Father."
- 4. Say the "Hail Mary."
- 5. Say the Apostles' Creed.
- 6. Say the "Eternal Father."
- Say 10 "For the sake of His sorrowful Passion" on the "Hail Mary" beads.
- 8. Repeat for four more decades, saying "Eternal Father" on the "Our Father" bead and then 10 "For the Sake of His sorrowful Passion" on the following "Hail Mary" beads.
- At the conclusion of the five decades, on the medallion say the "Holy God," the concluding doxology, three times.
- 10. Say the optional Closing Prayer.





Prayers of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy

- 1. The Sign of the Cross: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.
- 2. Opening Prayers (optional): You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us (Diary, 1319).
- O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You! (three times) (84).
- 3. The Our Father: Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.
- 4. The Hail Mary: Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen
- 5. The Apostles' Creed: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

- 6. On the "Our Father" 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 (476).
- 7. On the "Hail Mary" beads of each decade: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
- 8. Repeat "Eternal Father" and "For the Sake of His sorrowful Passion" (Numbers 6 & 7) Prayers for four more decades.
- 9. After 5 decades, the concluding doxology (three times): Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
- 10. Closing Prayer (optional): Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless, and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us, and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments, we might not despair, nor become despondent, but with great confidence, submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy Itself. Amen (950).

A PRAYER FOR DIVINE MERCY

O Greatly Merciful God, Infinite Goodness, today all mankind calls out from the abyss of its misery to Your mercy — to Your compassion, O God; and it is with its mighty voice of misery that it cries out: Gracious God, do not reject the prayer of this earth's exiles! O Lord, Goodness beyond our understanding, Who are acquainted with our misery through and through and know that by our own power we cannot ascend to You, we implore You, anticipate us with Your grace and keep on increasing Your mercy in us, that we may faithfully do Your holy will all through our life and at death's hour. Let the omnipotence of Your mercy shield us from the darts of our salvation's enemies, that we may with confidence, as Your children, await Your final coming — that day known to You alone. And we expect to obtain everything promised us by Jesus in spite