

Reflections

Volume 47

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Catholic Family Newsletter

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Jesus Is Coming Soon

By Saint Faustina

Blessings to All:

Throughout the ages, there have been so-called 'Private Revelations', some of which have been recognized by the authority of the Church. They do not belong, however, to the deposit of faith. It is not their role to improve or complete Christ's definitive revelation, but to help live more fully by it in a certain period of history.

Some people tend to go to one extreme or the other on private revelation; they either completely reject the concept, or they consider private revelation their chief rule of faith.

Therefore, what I am writing about in this Newsletter is concerning the 'Private Revelation' to St. Sister Faustina by Jesus. I believe that St. Faustina did receive these messages of love and hope by Jesus for our times. Jesus is warning the people to seek Him while there is time. Trust in His love and mercy to everyone who calls upon Him. Time may be running out for humanity.



It is difficult to write about the coming time when Jesus will give us one more chance to seek his Mercy. Saint Faustina is a saint for our time. Her story of Divine Mercy is for the whole world, especially great sinners.

I believe that Jesus is speaking to us through Saint Fasustina about what will happen on the last days. **He tells her to tell 'us' about the signs in heaven that will appear shortly before His return.** Jesus is giving us ample warning and begs us to seek His mercy now.

We should take these words of Love by Jesus into our very hearts. And in turn, we should show Love towards others. Love can nullify the hatred and unlove that Satan has spewed out into the world. We can be apostles for Jesus in our time. How can we do that? By a smile; a kind word; quick forgiveness; and listening to

problems of our friends, church members and family with love. These are the things that Satan does not want us to do. To show others Love. But this is exactly what we must do in order to be the apostles of His Divine Mercy that He is calling us to be.

Some of you reading this Newsletter may be keeping past sins you committed inside you and cannot release them from your thoughts. It is nature to remember past sins, but Jesus wants you to know, He will forgive you and you ' must forgive yourself.'

Start your day by asking Jesus to help you throughout the day. These are times when Satan is roaming the earth for the destruction of souls. He particularly wants souls living in grace to fall into sin or remember past sins to the point of depression. This is his mission. To destroy the spiritual life of people, anyway he can.



You are important to Jesus and He loves you. He needs you to show others love. This is not the time to hold grudges or treat others with a chip on your shoulder. ***Start today to add a smile when you meet others, including those that drive you nuts.*** St. Mother Teresa says to smile at others when you meet them. She says, "Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love; a gift to that person; a beautiful thing."

Signs, a Pope, and how St. Faustina Foresaw The Second Coming



Why would Christ emphasize in our time a doctrine, the Divine Mercy, which has been part of the teaching of the Faith from the beginning? As well as requesting a new devotional and liturgical expressions of it?

In His revelations to St. Faustina Jesus answers this question, connecting it to another doctrine, ***also sometimes little emphasized, that of His Second Coming.***

In the Gospel the Lord shows us that His first coming was in humility, as a Servant, to free the world from sin. Yet, He promises to return in glory to judge the world on love, as He makes clear in his discourses on the Kingdom in Matthew chapters 13 and 25. In between these 'Comings' we have the end times or era of the Church, in which the Church ministers reconciliation to the world until the great and terrible Day of the Lord. ***The private revelation given to St. Faustina is a plea from Jesus to accept His Mercy. Here are His words. Read them carefully.***

You will prepare the world for My final coming. (Diary429)

Speak to the world about My mercy ... It is a sign for the end times. After it will come the Day of Justice. While there is still time, let them have recourse to the fountain of My mercy. (Diary 848)

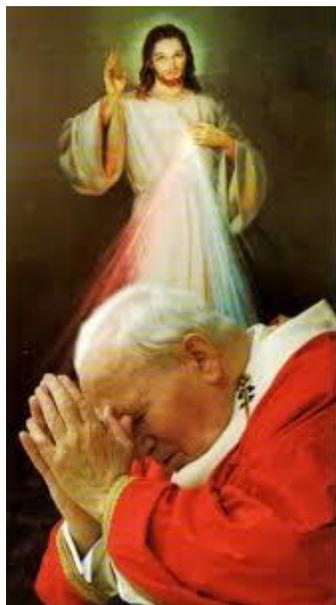
Tell souls about this great mercy of Mine, because the awful day, the day of My justice, is near. (Diary 965).

I am prolonging the time of mercy for the sake of sinners. But woe to them if they do not recognize this time of My visitation. (Diary 1160)

St. Faustina writes about a vision on March 25, 1936. "In the morning, during meditation, God's presence enveloped me in a special way, as I saw the immeasurable greatness of God and, at the same time, His condescension to His creatures. Then I saw the Mother of God, who said to me, *Oh, how pleasing to God is the soul that follows faithfully the inspirations of His grace! I gave the Savior to the world; as for you, you have to speak to the world about His great mercy and prepare the world for the Second Coming of Him who will come, not as a merciful Savior, but as a just Judge. Oh, how terrible is that day! Determined is the day of justice, the day of divine wrath. The angels tremble before it. Speak to souls about this great mercy while it is still the time for [granting] mercy. If you keep silent now, you will be answering for a great number of souls on that terrible day. Fear nothing. Be faithful to the end. I sympathize with you. (Diary 635).*

It is clear that, like the message of Fátima, the urgency here is the urgency of the Gospel, "repent and believe." The exact timing of His return is for the Lord.

However, it is also clear that we have reached some critical phase of the end times that began with the birth of the Church. To this fact Pope John Paul II alluded at the consecration in 1981 of the Shrine of Merciful Love in Collevallenaza, Italy, when he noted the **"special task"** assigned to him by God "in the present situation of man, the Church and the world."



In His Encyclical on the Father he urges us "to implore God's mercy for humanity in this hour of history ... to beg for it at this difficult, critical phase of the history of the Church and of the world as we approach the end of the second millennium."
(*Rich in Mercy* 15)

I believe that Pope John Paul II was spoken of by Jesus to St. Faustina. "

"I bear a special love for Poland, and if she will be obedient to My will, I will exalt her in might and holiness. From her will come forth the spark that will prepare the world for My final coming."

(Notebook VI 1732)

Second Coming Signs

Here is the vision that Jesus gave to St. Faustina about His Second coming. "Before I come as the just judge, I am coming first as the King of Mercy. Before the day of justice arrives, there will be given to people a sign in the heavens of this sort:



"All light in the heavens will be extinguished, and there will be great darkness over the whole earth. Then the sign of the cross will be seen in the sky, and from the openings where the hands and the feet of the Savior were nailed

will come forth great lights which will light up the earth for a period of time. This

will take place shortly before the last day. " - Saint Faustina, AD 1937. His Mercy is open to all..at anytime...anywhere...no matter how big a sinner you are.

St. John Paul II

Sr. Faustina Kowalska and
Devotion to Divine Mercy

A sermon by Pope John Paul II

This sermon was given by Pope John Paul II on the occasion of his canonization of Sr. Faustina in April 2000 and his proclamation of the First Sunday after Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday, a feast that celebrates God as the Father of Mercy, who extends pardon and forgiveness even to doubters like Thomas, and empowers us through the sacrament of mercy, otherwise known as reconciliation, penance or confession, to change our lives and experience true liberation from the bonds of sin.

“Today my joy is truly great in presenting the life and witness of Sr. Faustina Kowalska to the whole Church as a gift of God for our time. By divine Providence, the life of this humble daughter of Poland was completely linked with the history of the 20th century, the century we have just left behind. In fact, it was between the First and Second World Wars that Christ entrusted his message of mercy to her. Those who remember, who were witnesses and participants in the events of those years and the horrible sufferings they caused for millions of people, know well how necessary was the message of mercy.

Jesus told Sr. Faustina: “Humanity will not find peace until it turns trustfully to divine mercy”. Through the work of the Polish religious, this message has become linked for ever to the 20th century, the last of the second millennium and the bridge to the third. It is not a new message but can be considered a gift of special enlightenment that helps us to relive the Gospel of Easter more intensely, to offer it as a ray of light to the men and women of our time.

What will the years ahead bring us? What will man's future on earth be like? We are not given to know. However, it is certain that in addition to new progress there will unfortunately be no lack of painful experiences. But the light of divine mercy, which the Lord in a way wished to return to the world through Sr Faustina's charism, will illumine the way for the men and women of the third millennium.

It is important then 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". In the various readings, the liturgy seems to indicate the path of mercy which, while re-establishing the relationship of each person with God, also creates new relations of fraternal solidarity among human beings. Christ has taught us that man not only receives and experiences the mercy of God but is also called to practice mercy towards others: "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy". He also showed us the many paths of mercy, which not only forgives sins but reaches out to all human needs. Jesus bent over every kind of human poverty, material and spiritual. It is not easy to love with a deep love, which lies in the authentic gift of self. This love can only be learned by penetrating the mystery of God's love. Looking at him, being one with his fatherly heart, we are able to look with new eyes at our brothers and sisters, with an attitude of unselfishness and solidarity, of generosity and forgiveness. All this is mercy!

Sr. Faustina Kowalska wrote in her Diary: "I feel tremendous pain when I see the sufferings of my neighbors. All my neighbors' sufferings reverberate in my own heart; I carry their anguish in my heart in such a way that it even physically destroys me. I would like all their sorrows to fall upon me, in order to relieve my neighbor". This is the degree of compassion to which love leads, when it takes the love of God as its measure! It is this love which must inspire humanity today, if it is to face the crisis of the meaning of life, the challenges of the most diverse needs and, especially, the duty to defend the dignity of every human person. ***Thus, the message of divine mercy is also implicitly a message about the value of every human being. Each person is***

precious in God's eyes; Christ gave his life for each one; to everyone the Father gives his Spirit and offers intimacy.



This consoling message is addressed above all to those who, afflicted by a particularly harsh trial or crushed by the weight of the sins they committed, have lost all confidence in life and are tempted to give in to despair. To them the gentle face of Christ is offered; those rays from his heart touch them and shine upon them, warm them, show them the way and fill them with hope. How many souls have been consoled by the prayer “Jesus, I trust in you”, which Providence intimated through Sister Faustina.

And you, Faustina, a gift of God to our time, a gift from the land of Poland to the whole Church, obtain for us an awareness of the depth of divine

mercy; help us to have a living experience of it and to bear witness to it among our brothers and sisters. May your message of light and hope spread throughout the world, spurring sinners to conversion, calming rivalries and hatred and opening individuals and nations to the practice of brotherhood. Today, fixing our gaze with you on the face of the risen Christ, let us make our own your prayer of trusting abandonment and say with firm hope: **Christ Jesus, I trust in you!** “

Seek the LORD while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near.
Let the wicked forsake their way,
and sinners their thoughts;
Let them turn to the LORD to find mercy;
to our God, who is generous in forgiving.

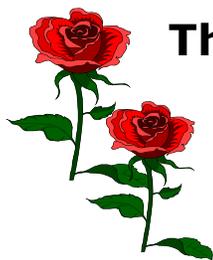
Isiah 55:6-7

Pray for Life

Pray to Forgive Your Enemies

Pray that Jesus Will Strengthen You In

This Time of Evil Upon the Earth



St. Paul Ministry, Cypress, TX

Our mission statement is to motivate people to pray and to be Christian examples in their work, home and with others, for those needing the Light in a world of Darkness.

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