

December 14, 2025

Third Sunday
Of Advent

National Shrine of The Divine Mercy



JESUS I TRUST IN YOU

A Ministry of the Marians of the
Immaculate Conception
of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary

National Shrine of The Divine Mercy
PO Box 951
2 Prospect Hill Road
Stockbridge, MA 01262
(GPS: 11 Pine Street, Stockbridge, MA)

Fr. Matthew Tomeny, MIC: Rector
Fr. Robert Vennetti, MIC: Vice Rector
Fr. Anthony Gramlich, MIC: Vice Rector
Shrine Reception: 413-298-3931
Bus Pilgrimages: 413-298-1119
Gift Shop: 888-484-1112

National Shrine:
www.shrineofdivinemercury.org
Divine Mercy: www.thedivinemercury.org
Marians: www.marian.org

*Livestream from
the National
Shrine*

Daily Devotions
Daily Mass
9:00am

Chaplet of Divine
Mercy
3:00pm

Rosary for Life
5:00pm

facebook

Divine Mercy (Official)

You Tube

Divine Mercy

Videos posted on our Web-
site daily:
shrineofdivinemercury.org

Dear Pilgrims,

We welcome you to the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy. Please join us for any upcoming events at the Shrine along with doing a personal pilgrimage during this year. Feel free to visit our Gift Shop and stroll our beautiful grounds during your visit here. May God bless you.

*Sincerely in Jesus and Mary Immaculate,
Fr. Matthew Tomeny, MIC
Shrine Rector*



Daily Schedule

Monday- Saturday 8:00am, 9:00am & 2:00pm

Sunday 9:00am, 10:30am & 2:00pm

Please note:


2pm Mass on Saturday does NOT fulfill Sunday obligation

Confessions Available

Monday thru Friday 1:00pm - 2:00pm

Saturdays and Sundays 1:00pm - 2:00pm

3:30pm - 4:15pm



The National Shrine of The Divine Mercy

Upcoming Events

December

- 12/20** “Explaining the Faith Talk in 15 Minutes” with Fr. Chris Alar, MIC
• Topic: TBD
- Movie Night: *It's a Wonderful Life* at 4pm
• See flyer on page 9 for more information
- 12/24** **Vigil of the Nativity of The Lord**
• 11pm Silent Holy Hour of Adoration
• 12:00am Midnight Christmas Mass
• See flyer on page 10 for more information
- 12/25** **Solemnity of the Nativity of The Lord**
• **HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**
• 9:00am, 10:30am and 2:00pm Masses
• See flyer on page 10 for more information
- 12/27** “Explaining the Faith Talk in 15 Minutes” with Fr. Chris Alar, MIC
• Topic: TBD
- 12/28** **Feast of the Holy Family**
- 12/31** **New Year's Eve**
• 11pm Silent Holy Hour of Adoration
• 12:00am (Midnight) New Year's Eve Mass
• See flyer on page 10 for more information

For more information please visit the **Shrine Calendar**
found on our website: <https://www.shrineofdivinemeracy.org>

THIS IS A TEMPLE OF THE LORD



MODESTY IN DRESS

**In respect of our Lord Jesus Christ and
the dignity of the Human Person.**

Temporary apparel available at Reception if needed.



Wisdom of Pope Leo XIV



“When the Kingdom comes to fruition, not only will those things which seem weak or marginal bud forth, but even those things which humanly speaking would be impossible will also be brought to fulfillment. In the images given by the prophet: “The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid, and the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them” (Is 11:6).

Quote from Angelus Address of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV
December 7, 2025



As we await His Holiness Pope Leo XIV 's future homilies and addresses regarding Gospel readings, we will revisit the teachings of his predecessors.

Teachings of the Popes

Pope Francis

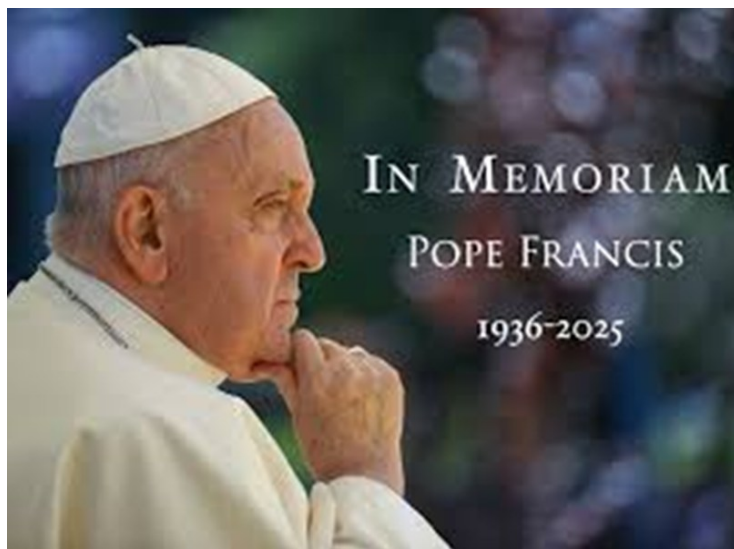
ANGELUS ADDRESS - DECEMBER 11, 2022

Dear brothers and sisters, blessed Sunday!

The Gospel of this third Sunday of Advent speaks to us about John the Baptist who, while in prison, sends his disciples to ask Jesus: “Are you he who is to come, or shall we look for another?” (Mt 11:4). Indeed, John, hearing of Jesus' works, is seized with doubt as to whether He is really the Messiah or not. In fact, he imagined a stern Messiah who would come and do justice with power by chastising sinners. Now, on the contrary, Jesus has words and gestures of compassion towards all; at the centre of His action is the mercy that forgives, whereby “the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them” (v. 6). It does us good, however, to look more closely at this crisis of John the Baptist, as it can tell us something important too.

The text emphasizes that John is in prison, and this, as well as being a physical place, makes us think of the inner situation he is experiencing: in prison there is darkness, there is no possibility of seeing clearly and seeing beyond it. In effect, the Baptist is no longer able to recognize Jesus as the awaited Messiah. He is assailed by doubt, and he sends the disciples to check: “Go and see if he is the Messiah or not”. It surprises us that this should happen to John, the one who had baptized Jesus in the Jordan and had indicated him to his disciples as the Lamb of God (cf. Jn 1:29). But this

means that even the greatest believer goes through the tunnel of doubt. And this is not a bad thing; on the contrary, sometimes it is essential for spiritual growth: it helps us understand that God is always greater than we imagine Him to be. His works are surprising compared to our calculations; His actions are different, always, they exceed our needs and expectations; and therefore, we must never stop seeking Him and converting to His true face. A great theologian used to say that God “needs to be rediscovered in stages... sometimes believing that we are losing Him” (H. DE LUBAC, *Sur les chemins de Dieu*). This is what the Baptist does: in doubt, he still seeks Him, questions Him, “argues” with Him and finally rediscovers Him. John, defined by Jesus as the greatest among those born of women (cf. Mt 11:11), teaches us, in short, not to close God within our own mindsets. This is always the danger, the temptation: to make ourselves a God to our measure, a God to use. And God is something else.



Brothers and sisters, we too at times find ourselves in his situation, in an inner jail, unable to recognize the newness of the Lord, whom we perhaps hold captive in the presumption that we already know everything about Him. Dear brothers and sisters, one never knows everything about God, never! Perhaps we have in mind a powerful God who does what He wants, instead of the God of humble meekness, the God of mercy and love, who always intervenes respecting our freedom and our choices. Perhaps we even find ourselves saying to Him: “Are you really you, so humble, the God who is coming to save us?”. And something similar can happen to us with our brothers and sisters too: we have our ideas, our prejudices and we attach rigid labels to others, especially those we feel are different to us. Advent, then is a *time for overturning our perspectives*, for letting ourselves be surprised by God’s mercy. Astonishment: God always astonishes. We saw, not long ago, in the television programme “*A Sua Immagine*”, they were talking about wonder. God is always the One who stirs wonder in you. A time – Advent – in which, preparing the Nativity display for the Infant Jesus, we learn again who our Lord is; a time to leave behind certain preconceptions and prejudices about God and our brothers and sisters. Advent is a time in which, instead of thinking about gifts for ourselves, we can give words and gestures of consolation to those who are wounded, as Jesus did with the blind, the deaf and the lame.

May Our Lady take us by the hand, like a mother, may she take us by the hand in these days of preparation for Christmas, and help us recognize in the smallness of the Infant the greatness of God who is coming.

Picture of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV from **Welcome, Pope Leo XIV** from marian.org:

<https://marian.org/articles/welcome-pope-leo-xiv>

Quote from Angelus Address given by His Holiness Pope Leo XIV December 7, 2025:

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/angelus/2025/documents/20251207-angelus.html>

Crest of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV: <https://www.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html>

Angelus Address given by Pope Francis on December 11, 2022

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/angelus/2022/documents/20221211-angelus.html>

Picture of Pope Francis from **Pope Francis, rest in peace** :

<https://www.facebook.com/DivineMercyOfficial/photos/may-the-soul-of-pope-francis-rest-in-peace/1070714418415285/>



2025 YEAR OF HOPE JUBILEE INDULGENCE

Every 2nd SATURDAY of the month will be a
JUBILEE DAY of PILGRIMAGE
here at the Shrine.

Any MASS attended at the Shrine
will count for the **JUBILEE INDULGENCE**.

This is especially for those who come by themselves
and are not part of a parish pilgrimage.



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(then continue up Pine St. to our driveway!)

Get to know the Diary of...



Saint Faustina

I desire that all humankind come to know the Lord. I would like to prepare all nations for the coming of the Word Incarnate.

But you, O merciful God, did not let humanity perish,
And gave it the promise of a Redeemer.
You did not let us despair, despite our grave offenses,
And You sent Your prophets to Israel.

September 17, [1937.) O Jesus, I see so much beauty scattered around me, beauty for which I give You constant thanks. But I see that some souls are like stone, always cold and unfeeling. Even miracles hardly move them. Their eyes are always fixed on their feet, and so they see nothing but themselves.

Today I heard the words: **In the Old Covenant I sent prophets wielding thunderbolts to My people. Today I am sending you with My mercy to the people of the whole world. I do not want to punish aching mankind, but I desire to heal it, pressing it to My Merciful Heart. I use punishment when they themselves force Me to do so; My hand is reluctant to take hold of the sword of justice. Before the Day of Justice I am sending the Day of Mercy.** I replied, "O my Jesus, speak to souls Yourself, because my words are insignificant."

O inconceivable goodness of God, which shields us at every step, may Your mercy be praised without cease. That You became a brother to humans, not to angels, is a miracle of the unfathomable mystery of Your mercy. All our trust is in You, our first-born Brother, Jesus Christ, true God and true Man. My heart flutters with joy to see how good God is to us wretched and ungrateful people. And as a proof of His love, He gives us the incomprehensible gift of Himself in the person of His Son. Throughout all eternity we shall never exhaust that mystery of love. O mankind, why do you think so little about God being truly among us? O Lamb of God, I do not know what to admire in You first: Your gentleness, Your hidden life, the emptying of Yourself for the sake of man, or the constant miracle of Your mercy, which transforms souls and raises them up to eternal life. Although You are hidden in this way, Your omnipotence is more manifest here than in the creation of man. Though the omnipotence of Your mercy is at work in the justification of the sinner, yet Your action is gentle and hidden.

During the ten o'clock meditation, Father [Rzyczkowski⁹⁸] spoke about divine mercy and about God's goodness to us. He said that as we review the history of mankind, we can see this great goodness of God at every step. All the attributes of God, such as omnipotence and wisdom, serve to reveal to us the greatest of His attributes; namely, His goodness. God's goodness is the greatest of

God's attributes. Many souls striving for perfection, however, are not aware of this great goodness of God. Everything that Father said in the course of the meditation about the goodness of God, was exactly what Jesus had said to me concerning the Feast of Mercy. I have now come to understand clearly what the Lord has promised me, and I have no doubt about anything; God's language is clear and distinct.

Thus, all sufferings are nothing in comparison with what awaits us in heaven.

O Light Eternal, who come to this earth, enlighten my mind and strengthen my will that I may not give up in times of great affliction. May Your light dissipate all the shadows of doubt. May Your omnipotence act through me. I trust in You, O uncreated Light! You, O Infant Jesus, are a model for me in accomplishing Your Father's will, You, who said, "Behold, I come to do Your will." Grant that I also may do God's will faithfully in all things. O Divine Infant, grant me this grace!

When I became aware of God's great plans for me, I was frightened at their greatness and felt myself quite incapable of fulfilling them, and I began to avoid interior conversations with Him, filling up the time with vocal prayer. I did this out of humility, but I soon recognized it was not true humility, but rather a great temptation from the devil. When, on one occasion, instead of interior prayer, I took up a book of spiritual reading, I heard these words spoken distinctly and forcefully within my soul, **You will prepare the world for My final coming.**

I feel certain that my mission will not come to an end upon my death, but will begin. O doubting souls, I will draw aside for you the veils of heaven to convince you of God's goodness, so that you will no longer continue to wound with your distrust the sweetest Heart of Jesus. God is Love and Mercy.

Throughout that entire meditation I saw the Lord Jesus on the altar, in a white garment, His hand holding the notebook in which I write these things. Throughout the entire meditation Jesus kept turning the pages of the notebook and remained silent; however, my heart could not bear the fire that was enkindled in my soul. Despite the great effort of my will to take control of myself and not let others see what was going on in my soul, toward the end of the meditation I felt that I was completely beyond my own control. Then Jesus said to me, **You have not written everything in the notebook about My goodness towards humankind; I desire that you omit nothing; I desire that your heart be firmly grounded in total peace.**

+ O my Jesus, although I will go to You, and You will fill me with Yourself, and that will make my happiness complete, I will nevertheless not forget about humanity. I desire to draw aside the veils of heaven, so that the earth would have no doubts about The Divine Mercy. My repose is in proclaiming Your mercy. The soul gives the greatest glory to its Creator when it turns with trust to The Divine Mercy.

I will spend this Advent in accordance with the directions of the Mother of God: in meekness and humility.

I am reliving these moments with Our Lady. With great longing, I am waiting for the Lord's coming. Great are my desires. I desire that all humankind come to know the Lord. I would like to prepare all nations for the coming of the Word Incarnate.

+The mercy of the Lord I will sing forever,
Before all the people will I sing it,
For it is God's greatest attribute
And for us an unending miracle.

MOVIE NIGHT

DECEMBER 20, 4 PM

All are welcome and the movie will be shown
in MEMORIAL HALL.

Festive
refreshments
will be served.



NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE DIVINE MERCY

Stockbridge, MA • ShrineofDivineMercy.org • (413) 298-3931

GPS Address: 11 Pine Street, Stockbridge 01262 (then continue up Pine St. to our driveway!)

A detailed nativity scene is the central focus, featuring a white donkey, a brown ox, and baby Jesus in a manger. Mary and Joseph are depicted in traditional robes, with Joseph holding a lantern. The scene is set against a wooden background. The top of the page is decorated with a festive border of green pine branches, red and white ornaments, and pinecones.

Christmas

and New Year

Mass Schedule

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 24

Christmas Eve

11:00 p.m.

Silent Holy Hour of Adoration

12:00 a.m. Midnight

Midnight Mass (Christmas)

THURSDAY, DEC. 25

Nativity of the Lord

Christmas Day*

9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m.

Holy Mass

Confessions only at 3:30 p.m.

**Holy Day of Obligation.*

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 31

New Year's Eve

11:00 p.m.

Holy Hour of Adoration

with Christmas Hymns

12:00 a.m. Midnight

New Year's Eve Mass

(Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God)

THURSDAY, JAN. 1, 2026

Solemnity of Mary,

Mother of God*

9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m.

Holy Mass

**Holy Day of Obligation.*

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Feast of the Holy Family

Feast Day
December
28th

Here in the Holy Family, we have divinity obedient to humanity, for Jesus, the divine Son, was obedient to Joseph and Mary (see Lk 2:51). We see creatures and Creator living as family, living in relationships of love, not of fear; of mutual self-gift, not of dominance. We see the same sort of infinite generosity in the earthly Holy Family as we see in the Heavenly Trinity. And we see there modeled the whole ecclesial life in the Spirit to which we are called.

Saint Faustina had a living relationship with all three members of the Holy Family. She saw Joseph and Mary as well as Jesus, and loved all three with a great and fervent love (see, for instance, *Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska*, 608, 846, 1203, 1442). Even as she had near daily conversations with Jesus, still she turned in prayer to Mary and Joseph regularly. Indeed, she had been told to do so:

Saint Joseph urged me to have a constant devotion to him. He himself told me to recite three prayers [the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be] and the *Memorare* once every day. He looked at me with great kindness and gave me to know how much he is supporting this work [of mercy]. He has promised me this special help and protection. I recite the requested prayers every day and feel his special protection (*Diary*, 1203).

Why? Because to love God properly means we should love what — and whom — He loves. And God loves no one more than His earthly parents. Think of the trust God must have had for them! Think of the love, to look on Joseph and Mary and to believe them capable of being people to whom He could be obedient, to whom He could entrust God the Son. Think of the extraordinary humility God must have, being willing to make Himself subject to creatures.

During these trying times, come home to the Holy Family. Welcome these most powerful protectors and intercessors into your life, and you'll have all the help you need to meet any challenge, no matter how great.

Excerpt from *Come Home to the Holy Family* by Chris Sparks, May 7, 2020:

<https://www.thedivinermercy.org/articles/come-home-holy-family>

Picture from *All in the Holy Family*: <https://www.thedivinermercy.org/articles/all-holy-family>

Join the Marian Fathers as we **Livestream**
from the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy
(open to the public)

the First Fridays and First Saturdays

each month making reparation to

*The Sacred Heart
of Jesus and
The Immaculate
Heart of Mary.*

Livestreaming:
First Fridays
8 p.m.

First Saturdays
11:45 a.m.



TheDivineMercy.org
FacebookDivineMercyOfficial
YouTube: Divine Mercy



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Shrine Bulletin Board



Blessed Oil of St. Faustina

Oil blessed in honor of St. Faustina is available at the Shrine Reception desk.

A suggested donation of \$5.00 which would go to support Shrine Ministries.

Join the Marian Fathers in person or via livestream for the

First Fridays and First Saturdays



Livestream:

First Fridays at 8pm

First Saturdays at 11:45am



TheDvineMercy.org
FacebookDivineMercyOfficial
YouTube: Divine Mercy



DIVINE MERCY PLUS

VIDEOS

LISTEN IN

LIVE

MY CONTENT



Pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet for the Dying

LIVE with Fr. Mark Baron, MIC

Fridays, 3 p.m. EDT



DivineMercyPlus.org
Facebook & Instagram



The Gift Shop is open daily
9:30am - 4:30pm
Find us at:
divinemercygiftshop.org

There are so many ways
to **GIVE** this
Christmas Season at
the National Shrine of
The Divine Mercy!



Visitation House, Inc.

New this year is an opportunity to support the incredible work being done at the **Visitation House** in Worcester, Massachusetts. It was the vision of newly named Servant of God, Ruth Pakaluk, who recognized the “urgent need to establish a home for pregnant women...to surround them with the culture of life, allowing them to choose life for their babies and themselves”. The Visitation House has helped more than 350 women and children since opening in 2005 by the Worcester Diocese.

If visiting the Shrine you can make a donation to the red box next to our **Advent Giving Tree** in the Shrine Chapel.

If you would like to donate via credit card you can call: **413-298-3931** and speak with the Receptionist.

For more information about the Visitation House and their services please visit <https://www.visitationhouse.org/>

To learn more about Servant of God, Ruth Pakaluk go to: <https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/267897/vatican-says-sainthood-cause-for-american->



Gunny Bear is all “wrapped up” in the holiday spirit!

Help him provide hope and joy —
and light up Christmas for children in need!

Collection box is located now in the Pilgrim Information Center one floor below the Shrine Church



We are excited to again be hosting our **Annual Advent Giving Tree**. It is a special tradition created to help local children and families in need during the Christmas season. By selecting an ornament from our tree, you can purchase a gift card(s) for that child, and make a real difference in the lives of our brothers and sisters in need.

The Advent Giving Tree will be available Sunday, November 30—December 17



MARIANS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Yes, I want to Help!



How to help

Please visit www.marian.org/ukraine/ to make a donation for Ukraine relief.

One-hundred percent of funds received are sent directly to Ukraine and used to purchase humanitarian aid and medical supplies.

Please do not mail medical supplies to Ukraine! Instead, please contact the Eucharistic Apostles of The Divine Mercy: **1-877-380-0727** or e-mail ministry@sprynet.com to answer any of your questions.

Because shipping via container is more cost effective, we prefer whatever monetary donations you can give rather than you sending medical supplies. Please know that boxes previously sent to the Marians or the EADM office were sent to Project C.U.R.E. and will be on future containers.

<https://marian.org/articles/shining-merciful-light-ukraine>

Embrace Life! Be A Hospice Volunteer.

Do you have a talent to share?

A contagious passion for just about anything?

Would you like a appreciative audience?

Want an easy way to make a big impact in someone's life?

Do you want to spend your precious free time making a difference in someone's life? This is an opportunity for you. We are currently looking for HOPSICE VOLUNTEERS on a regular, periodic or as needed basis. You can play cards, read papers, or have a nice conversation with patients. We provide training. You must be at least 18 years old to apply.

Please contact Lori Johnson, Volunteer Coordinator, at

413-443-2994

Or email:

ljohnson4@integritus1.org

Visit their website for more information:

<https://hcib.org/>



Jesus said to St. Faustina:

"... I demand from you deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to your neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to excuse or absolve yourself from it"

Diary of St. Faustina, 742

Comfort the Sick

Excerpt from Comfort the Sick-Part of a Series on Corporal Deeds of Mercy.
To read in full go to: <https://www.thedivinemercy.org/articles/comfort-sick>

The Image of Divine Mercy

I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over [its] enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I myself will defend it as my own glory.

(Diary 48)

In 1931, our Lord appeared to St. Faustina in a vision. She saw Jesus clothed in a white garment with His right hand raised in blessing. His left hand was touching His garment in the area of the Heart, from where two large rays came forth, one red and the other pale. She gazed intently at the Lord in silence, her soul filled with awe, but also with great joy. Jesus said to her:

Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You. I promise that the soul that will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over [its] enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I Myself will defend it as My own glory (Diary, 47, 48). I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You (327). I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and [then] throughout the world (47).

At the request of her spiritual director, St. Faustina asked the Lord about the meaning of the rays in the image. She heard these words in reply:

The two rays denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross. Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him (299). By means of this image I shall grant many graces to souls. It is to be a reminder of the demands of My mercy, because even the strongest faith is of no avail without works (742).

These words indicate that the Image represents the graces of Divine Mercy poured out upon the world, especially through Baptism and the Eucharist.

Many different versions of this image have been painted, but our Lord made it clear that the painting itself is not what is important. When St. Faustina first saw the original image that was being painted under her direction, she wept in disappointment and complained to Jesus: "Who will paint You as beautiful as You are?" (313).



Jesus, I Trust in You