

January 4, 2026

The Epiphany of  
The Lord

# 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](http://www.shrineofdivinemercury.org)  
Divine Mercy: [www.thedivinemercury.org](http://www.thedivinemercury.org)  
Marians: [www.marian.org](http://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](http://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

**2026**

### January

- 1/10 Marian Teaching at 11am**  
• Speaker & Topic TBD
- 1/17 Marian Teaching at 11am**  
• Speaker & Topic TBD
- 1/24 Marian Teaching at 11am**  
• Speaker & Topic TBD
- 1/27 Feast Day of Blessed George Matulaitis - Matulewicz**  
• Renovator of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception  
• See page 8 to learn more
- 1/31 Marian Teaching at 11am**  
• Speaker & Topic TBD

### February

- 2/2 Feast Day of the Presentation of The Lord**
- 2/3 Memorial of St. Blaise, Bishop & Martyr**  
• Blessing of Throats at 8am, 9am and 2pm Masses

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



“The Jubilee, which is about to end, has taught us how to cultivate hope for a new world. We do this by converting our hearts to God, so as to transform wrongs into forgiveness, pain into consolation, and resolutions of virtue into good works. In this way, God himself dwells in history and saves it from oblivion, giving the world our Redeemer, Jesus Christ. He is the Only Begotten Son who becomes our brother, illuminating the consciences of people of good will, so that we can build the future as a welcoming home for every man and woman who comes into the world.”

Quote from His Holiness Pope Leo  
September 19, 2025  
Catholic News Agency



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 - JANUARY 6, 2022

Dear brothers and sisters, *Buongiorno*, Happy Feast!

Today, the Solemnity of the Epiphany, we contemplate the episode of the Magi (cf. Mt 2:1-12). They faced a long and difficult journey to go and adore “the king of the Jews” (v. 2). They were guided by the wondrous sign of a star, and when they finally reached their destination, rather than finding something spectacular, they found a baby with his mother. They could have protested: “How many roads and how many sacrifices, only to find a poor child?” And yet, they were not scandalized. They were not disappointed. They did not complain. What did they do? They *prostrated themselves*. “Going into the house”, the Gospel says, “they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshipped him” (v. 11).

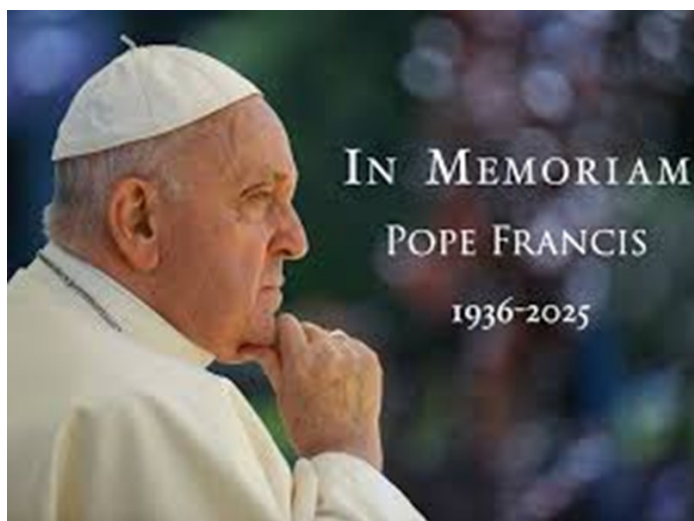
Let us think about these wise, rich, educated, well-known men who prostrate themselves, that is, they bow down on the ground to adore a baby! This seems a contradiction. Such a humble action performed by such illustrious men is surprising. To prostrate oneself before a leader who presented himself with the trappings of power and glory was something normal at that time. And even today this would not be strange. But before the Babe of Bethlehem, it was not simple. It is not easy to adore this God, whose divinity remains hidden and does not appear triumphant. It means welcoming God's greatness that manifests itself in littleness. This is the message. The Magi humbled themselves before the unheard-of logic of God. They welcomed the Lord not the way they had imagined him to be, but as he was, small and poor.

Their prostration is the sign of those who place their own ideas aside and make room for God. It takes humility to do this.

The Gospel stresses this: it does not only say that the Magi worshipped, it emphasizes that *they fell down and worshipped*. Let us understand this detail: worship and prostration go together. By performing this gesture, the Magi manifest their humble acceptance of the One who presented himself in humility. And so it is that they are open to worship God. The treasures they open are images of their open hearts: their true wealth does not consist in their fame, their success, but in their humility, in considering themselves *in need of salvation*. This is the example the Magi give us today.

Dear brothers and sisters, if we always remain at the centre of everything with our ideas, and if we presume to have something to boast of before God, we will never fully encounter him, we will never end up worshipping him. If our pretensions, vanity, stubbornness, competitiveness do not fall by the wayside, we may well end up worshipping someone or something in life, but it will not be the Lord! If instead, we abandon our pretence of self-sufficiency, if we make ourselves little inside, we will then rediscover the wonder of worshipping Jesus because *adoration comes from humility of heart*: those who crave winning do not notice the Lord's presence. Jesus passes nearby and is ignored, as happened to many at that time, but not to the Magi.

Brothers and sisters, looking at them, let us ask ourselves today: what is my humility like? Am I convinced that pride impedes my spiritual progress? That pride, apparent or hidden, that always dampens the drive toward God. Am I working on docility to be open to God and others, or am I always focused on myself and my demands, with that hidden selfishness which is pride? Do I know how to set aside my own perspective to embrace that of God and others? Finally: do I pray and worship only when I need something, or do I consistently do so because I believe that I am always in need of Jesus?



The Magi began their journey looking at a star, and they found Jesus. They walked a lot. Today, we can take this piece of advice: look at the star and walk. Never stop walking, but, do not stop looking at the star. This is the strong advice for today: look at the star and walk, look at the star and walk.

May the Virgin Mary, the servant of the Lord, teach us to rediscover our vital need for humility and the vibrant desire to worship. May she teach us to look at the star and walk.

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 His Holiness Pope Leo XIV from **Angelus Address** on January 1, 2026

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/angelus/2026/documents/20260101-angelus.html>

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

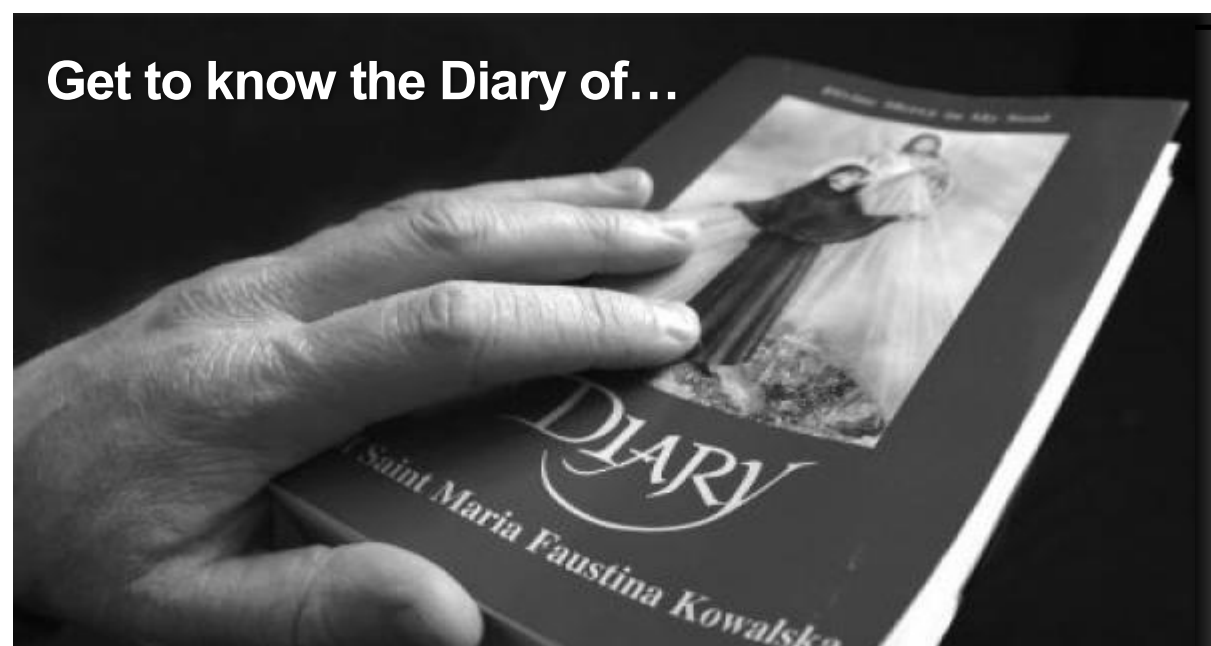
**Angelus Address** given by Pope Francis on January 6, 2022

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/angelus/2022/documents/20220106-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/>

Get to know the Diary of...



Saint Faustina

**“Be adored, O our Creator and Lord...”**

January 6, 1937. Today during Holy Mass, I was unwittingly absorbed in the infinite majesty of God. The whole immensity of God’s love flooded my soul. At that particular moment, I became aware of how much God abases himself for my sake. He, the Lord of Lords – and what am I, miserable being that I am, that You would commune thus with me? The wonder that took hold of me after this special grace continued very vividly throughout the entire day. Taking advantage of the intimacy to which the Lord was admitting me, I interceded before Him for the whole world. At such moments I have the feeling that the whole world is depending on me.

Sometimes there are whole hours when my soul is lost in wonder at seeing the infinite majesty of God abasing Himself to the level of my soul. Unending is my interior astonishment that the Most High Lord is pleased in me and tells me so Himself. And I immerse myself even deeper in my nothingness, because I know what I am of myself. Still I must say that I, in return, love my Creator to folly with every beat of my heart and with every nerve; my soul unconsciously drowns, drowns... in Him. I feel that nothing will separate me from the Lord, neither heaven nor earth, neither the present nor the future. Everything may change, but love never, never; it is always the same. He, the Immortal Mighty One, makes His will known to me that I may love Him very specially, and He himself makes my soul capable of the kind of love with which He wants me to love Him. I bury myself more and more in Him, and I fear nothing.

Love has overtaken my whole heart, and even if I were to be told of God’s justice and of how even the pure spirits tremble and cover their faces before Him, saying endlessly, “Holy,” which would seem to suggest that my familiarity with God would be to the detriment of His honor and majesty, [I would reply,] “O no, no, and once again, no!” In pure love, there is room for everything: the highest praise and the deepest adoration, yet the soul is immersed in Him in deepest peace through love; and the words of people, speaking from the exterior, have no effect upon that soul. What they tell the soul about God is but a pale shadow in comparison to its own experience of Him; and it is often surprised how other people can be struck with admiration at what someone else says about God when, for this soul, it is nothing special, as it knows that what can be put into words is not yet that great. So this soul listens to everything with respect, but has its own special life in God.

O merciful Jesus, how longingly You hurried to the Upper Room to consecrate the Host that I am to receive in my life. Jesus, You desired to dwell in my heart. Your living Blood unites with mine. Who can understand this close union? My heart encloses within itself the Almighty, the Infinite

One. O Jesus, continue to grant me Your divine life. Let Your pure and noble Blood throb with all its might in my heart. I give You my whole being. Transform me into Yourself and make me capable of doing Your holy will in all things and of returning Your love. O my sweet Spouse, You know that my heart knows no one but You. You have opened up in my heart an insatiable depth of love for You. From the very first moment it knew You, my heart has loved You and has lost itself in You as its one and only object. May Your pure and omnipotent love be the driving force of all my actions. Who will ever conceive and understand the depth of mercy that has gushed forth from Your Heart?

Be adored, O our Creator and Lord.  
O universe, humbly glorify your God;  
Thank your Creator to the best of your powers  
And praise God's incomprehensible mercy.

Come, O earth, in all your fine greenery;  
Come, you too, O fathomless sea.  
Let your gratitude become a loving song  
And sing the greatness of God's mercy.

Come, beautiful, radiant sun.  
Come, bright dawn which precedes it.  
Join in one hymn, and let your clear voices  
Sing in one accord God's great mercy.

Come, hills and valleys, sighing woods and thickets,  
Come, lovely flowers of morning tide;  
Let your unique scent  
Adore and glorify God's mercy.

Come, all you lovely things of earth,  
Which man does not cease to wonder at.  
Come, adore God in your harmony,  
Glorifying God's inconceivable mercy.

Come, indelible beauty of all the earth,  
And, with great humility, adore your Creator,  
For all things are locked in His mercy,  
With one mighty voice all things cry out; how  
great is the mercy of God.

But above all these beauties,  
A more pleasing praise to God  
Is a soul innocent and filled with childlike trust,  
Which, through grace, is closely bound to Him.

A Moment Before the Blessed Sacrament.

O my eternal Lord and Creator, how am I going to thank You for this great favor; namely, that You have deigned to choose miserable me to be Your betrothed and that You are to unite me to yourself in an eternal bond? O dearest Treasure of my heart, I offer You all the adoration and thanksgiving of the Saints and of all the choirs of Angels, and I unite myself in a special way with Your Mother. O Mary, my Mother, I humbly beg of You, cover my soul with Your virginal cloak at this very important moment of my life, so that thus I may become dearer to Your Son and may worthily praise Your Son's mercy before the whole world and throughout all eternity.



# Blessed George Matulaitis— Matulewicz

Renovator of the Marians of the  
Immaculate Conception

*As the Marians prepare to mark the Feast Day of their Renovator, let's meet Blessed George Matulaitis-Matulewicz and get a glimpse into his life of holiness.*

He was known for his courage and zeal, a priest whose efforts allowed the Marians of the Immaculate Conception to become the modern religious congregation it is today.

While his native land was under the oppressive domination of the Russian czar and nearly all Marian monasteries had been closed and confiscated, he saved the Marians from extinction.

Marians around the world marked the feast day Jan. 27 of Bl. George Matulaitis-Matulewicz (1871-1927), known as the "Renovator" of the congregation. The feast day comes amidst a year of thanksgiving that began Dec. 8, for the 100th anniversary of the renewal and reform of the Marians that Bl. George led.

"The miraculous deliverance of our Congregation from death 100 years ago and its reform seems to have been the strongest experience of God's mercy in our history, an important confirmation that God cares for us, that our charism is valuable for the Church," wrote Fr. John M. Rokosz, MIC, the Marians' General Superior, in a letter in December to his confreres.

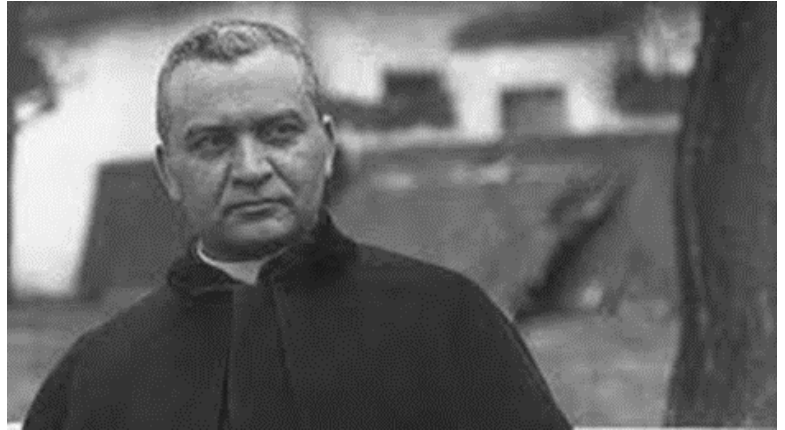
Marians today continue to draw inspiration from Bl. George's spiritual writings. Perhaps most famous among his writings was his call of service to Christ and His Church. He wrote in his spiritual journal:

*If I may ask, Lord, let me be but a dishrag in your Church, a rag used to wipe up messes and then thrown away into some dark corner. I want to be used up and worn out in the same way so that your house may be a little cleaner and brighter. And afterwards, let me be thrown away like a dirty, worn-out dishrag.*

## A New Spirit

The National Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, Mass., held a special Mass Tuesday, Jan. 27, marking the feast day for this holy priest who remains a cherished and inspirational figure in the Marian community and the Church at large.

"We really owe Bl. George so much gratitude for what he's done for the community - not only for renovating it, but for bringing a new spirit into the community," said Shrine Rector Fr. Anthony Gramlich, MIC. "He wanted the community to love and work for Christ and the Church."



Before blessing attendees with a relic of Bl. George, Fr. Anthony shared a history of the man whose motto was "to seek God in all things, to do all things for the greater glory of God."

Born in 1871 of peasant Lithuanian parents, Bl. George came of age knowing full well the struggles of living out the faith under a harsh political climate. His native land was under the domination of the Russian czar. By this time, the Marian Order—founded in 1673 by Bl. Stanislaus Papczynski - was on the verge of extinction. Nearly all Marian monasteries had been closed and confiscated. Only one survived - the monastery at Mariampole in Lithuania. Government edict permitted the remaining religious to live out their days in the monastery, but no new candidates could be accepted. This amounted to a death sentence for the Marians.

George was born only five kilometers from Mariampole. By age 10, he was an orphan who had already come to know the Marians well. He wanted to become a Marian, and he was deeply distressed to see the community gradually diminishing. He knew the risks and the dangers involved. But Fr. George felt inspired to revive the Order - even if in secret.

By 1908, there was one last surviving Marian living in Mariampole, Fr. Vincent Senkus-Sekowski. Humanly speaking, the end was near. But with Fr. Vincent, Fr. George discussed ways to revive the Marians. In July 1909, after prayer and consultation, Fr. George went to Rome to present the plan to Pope Pius X. He carried with him a letter of recommendation from Fr. Vincent with this heartfelt plea:

"... of all the Marians, I am the last survivor. All others have died. Since I am already an old man in frail health, it can safely be assumed that with my death the Marian Order will cease to exist - unless with the permission of the Apostolic See extraordinary measures are undertaken to remedy this situation."

In this letter, Fr. Vincent asked the Holy Father to dispense the Marians from wearing the white monastic habit, to allow Fr. George to make his religious profession without the necessary novitiate, and to secretly accept new candidates. He gave reasons for eliminating these customary external signs of a Marian vocation - "because of persecution by the government we cannot function otherwise."

Pope Pius X gave his personal approval, encouragement, and blessing. Thus began the great process of renewal of the Marians. With Fr. Vincent's passing in 1911, many thought the Marians ceased to exist. But in reality, the order was just beginning a new phase.

## **His Special Mission**

At the time, Fr. George was working as a professor at the St. Petersburg Academy and secretly forming the Marian novitiate with three new novices. But it was not safe to live in community in St. Petersburg. In order that the Marians could function and grow in freedom, Fr. George - who viewed reviving the Marians as his special mission in the Church - resigned from all his duties at the academy and transferred the Marians to Switzerland.

Before his death in 1927, the number of Marians reached 240 and would continue to grow over the next several decades, becoming a community of more than 500 priests and brothers at the present time.

In addition to being responsible for the renewal of the Marian Order, Bl. George revised Constitutions for several religious communities. In Lithuania, he founded the Congregation of Sisters of the Immaculate Conception and in Belarus, the Sisters Servants of the Jesus in the Eucharist.

Blessed George also proved to be an outstanding bishop of Vilnius, as well as a skilled and capable diplomat as an archbishop at the service of the Vatican in Lithuania. Pope Pius XI, who knew Archbishop George Matulaitis, described him as "God's man" and "a truly holy man."

To the Congregation of the Marians, Bl. George bequeathed a spirit of continuous renewal and generous effort "for Christ and the Church." On his deathbed, where he reiterated his conviction that self-sacrifice is the way most Christians carry their cross, he urged Marians to "close up the ranks and sacrifice yourselves."

On June 28, 1987, Archbishop George Matulaitis was beatified by Pope John Paul II.

In his feast day homily, Fr. Anthony said, "There are other religious communities that have died out in the history of the Church, but for some reason God wanted this little community, dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, to survive 100 years ago. And it is miraculous that this little community dedicated to Mary would be given the message of The Divine Mercy, this message that we proclaim here on Eden Hill at the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy. And if it weren't for Blessed George, I wouldn't be here, and the Marians wouldn't be here."

## **Prayer for a Special Grace through the Intercession of Blessed George**

*O God, our Lord and Father, You surround us always by Your care; receive our humble petition, and through the intercession of Blessed George, who suffered so much for Your glory and for the increase of Your Kingdom here on earth, grant me the grace for which I ask You with confidence, promising to live from now on with greater fidelity to Your commandments. Amen.*

*Our Father... Hail Mary... Glory be to the Father...*

Picture from: **Blessed George Matulaitis-Matulewicz (1871-1927) Renovator of The Marians** on [padrimariani.org](http://padrimariani.org):  
<https://padrimariani.org/en/renovator/>

Article from: **Gratitude for Bl. George** on [thedivinemercy.org](http://thedivinemercy.org):  
<https://www.thedivinemercy.org/articles/gratitude-bl-george>

Picture page 2 from Who is Blessed George Matulaitis on Youtube (Divine Mercy);  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5BIOhIBAY0w>

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



**NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE DIVINE MERCY**

Stockbridge, MA • ShrineofDivineMercy.org • (413) 298-3931  
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# Anointing of the Sick

Wednesday • February 11, 2026



## Memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes

### Holy Mass

9:00 a.m. and \*2:00 p.m.

\*ANOINTING OF THE SICK AFTER  
THE 2:00 P.M. MASS ONLY.

### Confessions

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. and 3:30 – 4:15 p.m.

### Devotions

1:00 p.m. – Eucharistic Adoration

1:30 p.m. – Rosary for Life

3:00 p.m.

- Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- Benediction
- Blessing of Religious Articles
- Blessing with a Relic of St. Faustina



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# *LENT Begins*

**Ash Wednesday**

**Feb. 18, 2026**

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION:**

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

**CONFESSIONS:**

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

**ROSARY FOR LIFE:**

1:30 p.m.

**HOLY MASS AND  
DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES:**

9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

**CHAPLET OF  
DIVINE MERCY &  
BENEDICTION\*:**

3:00 p.m.

**\*St. Faustina's Way of the Cross**

Friday, Saturday, and Sunday during Lent immediately following the Chaplet



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# *Saint Faustina's* **WAY OF THE CROSS**

Starting Feb. 20, 2026,  
we will pray *St. Faustina's Way of The Cross*,  
Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday during  
**LENT**, through **GOOD FRIDAY**  
immediately after the  
2:00 p.m. Mass and Chaplet

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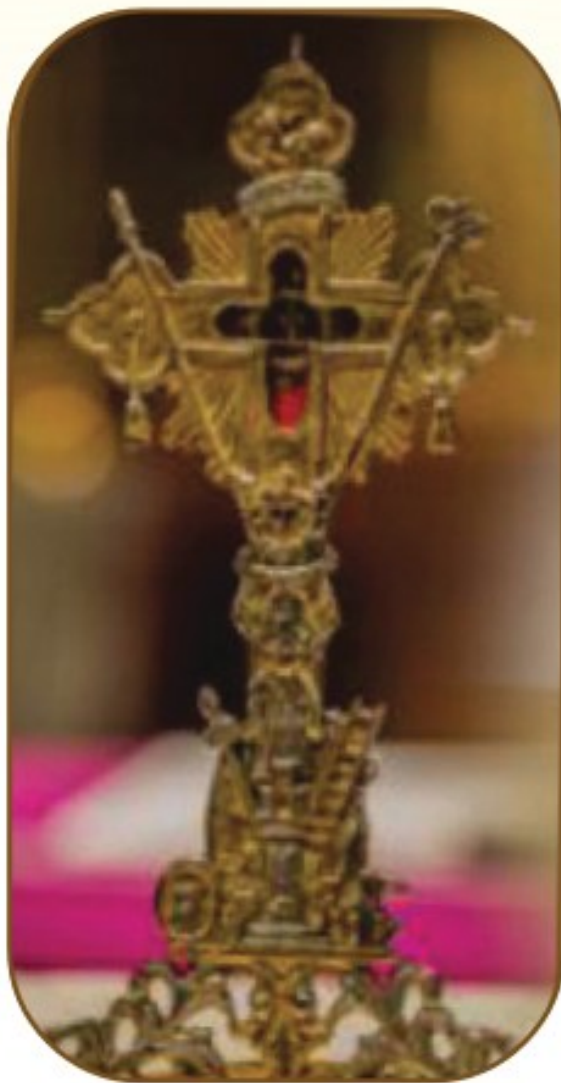
# Relics of the *Passion*

**Saturday, Feb. 28**

**10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.**

**in the St. Faustina Center**

***Join us for veneration of 9 unique  
and rarely seen relics of the  
Passion of Our Lord***



Sponsored by the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy in collaboration with the Apostolate for Holy Relics (AHR), guardian for more than 1,200 relics in special collections.

**The Relics of the Passion collection has some things rarely seen, including:**

- The Relic of the True Cross
- A piece of stone from the table or room where the Last Supper was held.
- A piece of the Crown of Thorns
- The effigy of the veil of Veronica (touched to the original veil)
- A replica of the holy nail which contains filing taken from the true nails that were imbedded in copies to make relics of a lower class
- A piece of bone from St. Longinus, the centurion that pierced the side of Jesus
- A thread from the cloth used as the wrapping for the burial Shroud.
- And more!



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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.



### The Gift Shop

***Closed January 4-9***

is  
open daily  
9:30am -

Volunteering is a wonderful way to share your gifts and God's Mercy with our pilgrims. Please follow the link below to learn more about volunteering at the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy.

[www.shrineofdivinemercury.org/get-involved/](http://www.shrineofdivinemercury.org/get-involved/)



### DIVINE MERCY PLUS

VIDEOS

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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



# MARIANS OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

*Yes, I want to Help!*



## *How to help*

Please visit [www.marian.org/ukraine/](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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