

July 12, 2026
Fifteenth Sunday
in Ordinary Time

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

July

7/16 Commemoration of Our Lady of Mount Carmel

- See flyer on page 9 for more information

7/17 Outdoor Stations of The Cross

- See flyer on page 8 for more information

7/24 Outdoor Stations of The Cross

- See flyer on page 8 for more information

7/30 Healing Mass at 7pm

- See flyer on page 10 for more information

7/31 Outdoor Stations of The Cross

- See flyer on page 8 for more information

August

8/1 Encuentro Latino

- See flyer on page 11 for more information

First Saturday Devotions

- In the Saint Faustina Center

Explaining the Faith Talk

- ONLINE ONLY
- Topic: *"Sunday Rest: What is forbidden?"*

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.



PAPAL CORNER • WISDOM OF POPE LEO XIV



GENERAL AUDIENCE

Pope Leo XIV

ST PETER'S SQUARE

SUNDAY,

MAY 21, 2025

**Cycle of Catechesis – Jubilee 2025. Jesus Christ our Hope. II. The life of Jesus.
The parables 6. The sower. He spoke to them at length in parables (Mt 13:3a)**

Dear brothers and sisters,

I am pleased to welcome you in this, my first general Audience. Today I will resume the cycle of Jubilee catecheses, on the theme “Jesus Christ Our Hope”, initiated by Pope [Francis](#).

Let us continue today to meditate on the parables of Jesus, which help us to regain hope, because they show us how God works in history. Today I would like to dwell on a parable which is somewhat peculiar, because it is a sort of introduction to all the parables. I refer to that of the sower (cf. *Mt 13:1-17*). In a certain sense, in this account we can recognize Jesus’ way of communicating, which has a great deal to teach us for proclaiming the Gospel today.

Every parable tells a story that is taken from everyday life, yet wants to tell us something more, to refer us to a deeper meaning. The parable raises questions in us; it invites us not to stop at appearances. Before the story that is told or the image that is presented to me, I can ask myself: where am I in this story? What does this image say to my life? In fact, the term “parable” comes from the Greek verb *paraballein*, which means *to throw in front of*. The parable throws before me a word that provokes me and prompts me to question myself.

The parable of the sower talks precisely about the dynamic of the word of God and the effects it produces. Indeed, every word of the Gospel is like a seed that is thrown on the ground of our life. Jesus uses the image of the seed many times, with different meanings. In chapter 13 of the Gospel of Matthew, the parable of the sower introduces a series of other short parables, some of which talk precisely about what is happening on the terrain: the wheat and the weeds, the mustard seed, the treasure hidden in the field. What, then, is this soil? It is our heart, but it is also the world, the community, the Church. The word of God, in fact, makes fruitful and provokes every reality.

At the beginning, we see Jesus who leaves the house and gathers a great crowd around him (cf. *Mt 13:1*). His word fascinates and intrigues. Among the people there are obviously many different situations. The word of Jesus is for everyone, but it works in each person in a different way. This context allows us to understand better the meaning of the parable.

A rather unusual sower goes out to sow, but does not care where the seed falls. He throws the seeds even where it is unlikely they will bear fruit: on the path, on the rocks, among the thorns. This attitude surprises the listener and induces him to ask: how come?

We are used to calculating things – and at times it is necessary – but this does not apply in love! The way in which this “wasteful” sower throws the seed is an image of the way God loves us. Indeed, it is true that the destiny of the seed depends also on the way in which the earth welcomes it and the situation in which it finds itself, but first and foremost in this parable Jesus tells us that God throws the seed of his Word on all kinds of soil, that is, in any situation of ours: at times we are more superficial and distracted, at times we let ourselves get carried away by enthusiasm, sometimes we are burdened by life’s worries, but there are also times when we are willing and welcoming. God is confident and hopes that sooner or later the seed will blossom. This is how he loves us: he does not wait for us to become the best soil, but he always generously gives us his word. Perhaps by seeing that he trusts us, the desire to be better soil will be kindled in us. This is hope, founded on the rock of God’s generosity and mercy. In telling the way in which the seed bears fruit, Jesus is also talking about his life. Jesus is the Word, he is the Seed. And the seed, to bear fruit, must die. Thus, this parable tells us that God is ready to “waste away” for us and that Jesus is willing to die in order to transform our life.

I have in mind that beautiful painting by Van Gogh, *The sower at sunset*. That image of the sower in the blazing sun also speaks to me of the farmer’s toil. And it strikes me that, behind the sower, Van Gogh depicted the grain already ripe. It seems to me an image of hope: one way or another, the seed has borne fruit. We are not sure how, but it has. At the centre of the scene, however, is not the sower, who stands to the side; instead, the whole painting is dominated by the image of the sun, perhaps to remind us that it is God who moves history, even if he sometimes seems absent or distant. It is the sun that warms the clods of earth and makes the seed ripen.

Dear brothers and sisters, in what situation of life today is the Word of God reaching us? Let us ask the Lord for the grace always to welcome this seed that is his Word. And if we realize we are not a fruitful soil, let us not be discouraged, but let us ask him to work on us more to make us become a better terrain.

Summary of the Holy Father's words:

Dear brothers and sisters: I am happy to be with you in this, the first General Audience of my pontificate. Today, I would like to take up the series of catecheses on the Jubilee theme of “Christ our Hope” begun by Pope Francis, and reflect on Jesus’ parable of the sower and the seed. What can strike us is the generosity, even recklessness, with which the sower casts the seed on all kinds of soil, even the rocky terrain that seems most unpromising. Jesus explains that the seed is God’s word, which is meant to take root in the hearts of all, none excluded. We who hear this parable, and apply it to our own lives, may well feel challenged to become a better and more receptive terrain for the working of his grace. Yet the parable of the sower can also make us think of Jesus himself, who, in his death and resurrection, became the seed that fell to the ground and died in order to bear rich fruit. The image of the sower – we can think of the famous painting by Van Gogh – is thus one of hope in the promise of a coming harvest. Today, and every day, let us ask the Lord to open our hearts to his saving word and its power to transform and enrich our lives and the world in which we live.

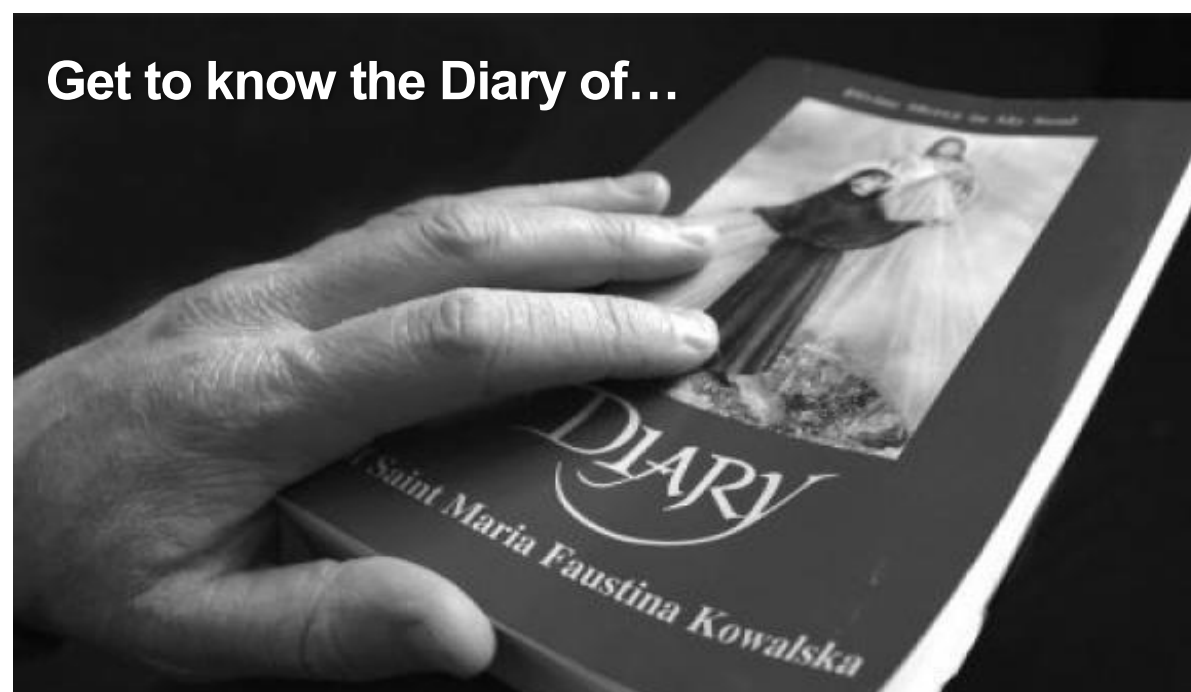
Picture of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV from **Welcome, Pope Leo XIV:**

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

Regina Caeli of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV on May 21, 2025

<https://www.vatican.va/content/leo-xiv/en/audiences/2025/documents/20250521-udienza-generale.html>

Get to know the Diary of...



**Saint Faustina
Kowalska**

“O holy faith, you are my guidepost.”

Toward the end of my novitiate, a confessor [perhaps Father Theodore] told me: “Go through life doing good, so that I could write on its pages: ‘She spent her life doing good.’ May God bring this about in you.”

Another time the confessor said to me, “Comport yourself before God like the widow in the Gospel; although the coin she dropped into the box was of little value, it counted far more before God than all the big offerings of others.”

On another occasion the instruction I received was this: “Act in such a way that all those who come in contact with you will go away joyful. Sow happiness about you because you have received much from God; give, then, generously to others. They should take leave of you with their hearts filled with joy, even if they have no more than touched the hem of your garment. Keep well in mind the words I am telling you right now.”

Still another time he gave me the following recommendation: “Let God push your boat out into the deep waters, toward the unfathomable depths of the interior life.”

Here are a few words from a conversation I had with the Mother Directress [Mary Joseph] toward the end of my novitiate: “Sister, let simplicity and humility be the characteristic traits of your soul. Go through life like a little child, always trusting, always full of simplicity and humility, content with everything, happy in every circumstance. There, where others fear, you will pass calmly along, thanks to this simplicity and humility. Remember this, Sister, for your whole life: as waters flow from the mountains down into the valleys, so, too, do God’s graces flow only into humble souls.”

+ Faithful submission to the will of God, always and everywhere, in all events and circumstances of life, gives great glory to God. Such submission to the will of God carries more weight with Him than long fasts, mortifications and the most severe penances. Oh, how great is the reward for one act of loving submission to the will of God! As I write, my soul is enraptured at the .

thought of how much God loves it and of the peace that my soul already enjoys, here on earth

In the evening, I just about got into bed, and I fell asleep immediately. Though I fell asleep quickly, I was awakened even more quickly. A little child came and woke me up. The child seemed about a year old, and I was surprised it could speak so well, as children of that age either do not speak or speak very indistinctly. The child was beautiful beyond words and resembled the Child Jesus, and he said to me, **Look at the sky.** And when I looked at the sky I saw the stars and the moon shining. Then the child asked me, **Do you see this moon and these stars?** When I said yes, he spoke these words to me, **These stars are the souls of faithful Christians, and the moon is the souls of religious. Do you see how great the difference is between the light of the moon and the light of the stars? Such is the difference in heaven between the soul of a religious and the soul of a faithful Christian.** And he went on to say that, **True greatness is in loving God and in humility.**

Then I saw a soul which was being separated from its body amid great torment. O Jesus, as I am about to write this, I tremble at the sight of the horrible things that bear witness against him.... I saw the souls of little children and those of older ones, about nine years of age, emerging from some kind of a muddy abyss. The souls were foul and disgusting, resembling the most terrible monsters and decaying corpses. But the corpses were living and gave loud testimony against the dying soul. And the soul I saw dying was a soul full of the world's applause and honors, the end of which are emptiness and sin. Finally a woman came out who was holding something like tears in her apron, and she witnessed very strongly against him.

O terrible hour, at which one is obliged to see all one's deeds in their nakedness and misery; not one of them is lost, they will all accompany us to God's judgment. I can find no words or comparisons to express such terrible things. And although it seems to me that this soul is not damned, nevertheless its torments are in no way different from the torments of hell; there is only this difference: that they will someday come to an end.

A moment later, I again saw the child who had awakened me. It was of wondrous beauty and repeated these words to me, **True greatness of the soul is in loving God and in humility.** I asked the child, "How do you know that true greatness of the soul is in loving God and in humility? Only theologians know about such things and you haven't even learned the catechism. So how do you know?" To this he answered, **I know; I know all things.** And with that, He disappeared.

But I could no longer get to sleep; my mind became exhausted by thinking about the things I had seen. O human souls, how late you learn the truth! O abyss of God's mercy, pour yourself out as quickly as possible over the whole world, according to what You yourself have said.

Now I can be wholly useful to the Church by my personal sanctity, which throbs with life in the whole Church, for we all make up one organism in Jesus. That is why I endeavor to make the soil of my heart bear good fruit. Although the human eye may perhaps never see it, there will nevertheless come a day when it will become apparent that many souls have been fed and will continue to be fed with this fruit.

O holy mystery, what great treasures are contained in you! O holy faith, you are my guidepost!

Guided Outdoor *Stations of the Cross*

Led by the Marians
every Friday

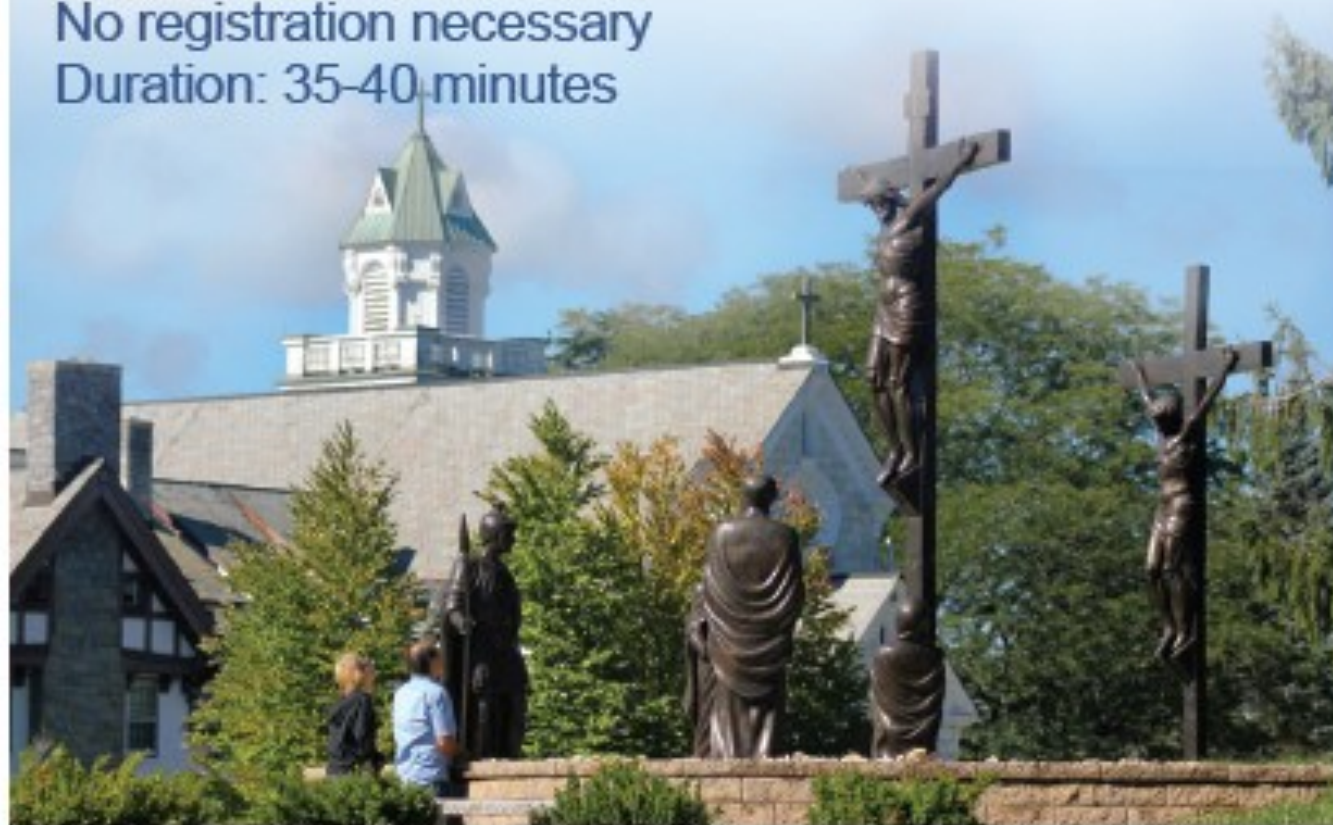


Meet in front of the National Shrine at 10:50 a.m.

(weather permitting)

No registration necessary

Duration: 35-40 minutes



NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE DIVINE MERCY

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

GPS Address: 2 Prospect Hill Road, Stockbridge 01262 (then continue up Pine St. to our driveway!)

Memorial of Our Lady of Mount Carmel



July 16, 2026

9:00 a.m. Holy Mass

1:00 p.m. Eucharistic Adoration
Confessions

1:30 p.m. Rosary for Life

2:00 p.m. Holy Mass

- With Investiture in the
Brown Scapular

3:00 p.m. Hour of Great Mercy:

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



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THE MOTHER OF DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP

invites you to a

Healing Mass

ON THE LAST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 7:00 P.M.
NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE DIVINE MERCY



January 29th

Celebrant: Fr. Jason Lewis, MIC

February 26th

Celebrant: Fr. Michael Callea, MIC

March 26th

Celebrant: Fr. Bob Vennetti, MIC

April 30th

Celebrant: Fr. Daniel Klimek, MIC

May 28th

Celebrant: Fr. Tyler Mentzer, MIC

June 25th

Celebrant: Fr. Gabriel Cillo, MIC

July 30th

Celebrant: Fr. Gabriel Cillo, MIC

August 27th

Celebrant: Fr. Anthony Gramlich, MIC

September 24th

*Celebrant: Fr. Tom Reilly
Healing Ministry,
Archdiocese of Boston*

October 29th

Celebrant: Fr. Anthony Gramlich, MIC

The Healing Mass is sponsored by the Mother of Divine Mercy Prayer Group. Our prayer group meets every Thursday evening at 7 p.m. in the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy, Stockbridge, MA. Weather-related cancellations will be announced on radio stations WSBS AM 860 Great Barrington; WBEC FM 105.5 Pittsfield; WUPE AM 1110 Pittsfield, & WTIC AM 1080, Hartford, CT.

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Join the Marian Fathers for a full day of celebration
dedicated to the Latino pilgrims!

Encuentro Latino 2026

Saturday, August 1

NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE DIVINE MERCY
in Stockbridge, Massachusetts

Special Guests



Catechesis:
**Deacon José
Correa Pacheco**



Our Lady of Guadalupe
pilgrim Image:
Vivian Mestey



Principal Celebrant:
**Fr. Dante
Agüero, MIC**



Puppet show:
**Fr. Andy
Davy, MIC**



Masters of Ceremonies:
Alberto Rosario



Naida Costa



Music:
**Saint Michael the
Archangel Ministry**



Folk Dancing:
Illusion

Spiritual Presentations Schedule

9:30 am: Introduction (In the food tent)

9:45 am: Latino music
(Mother of Mercy Outdoor Shrine)

9:55 am: Our Lady of Guadalupe pilgrim image
(Mother of Mercy Outdoor Shrine)

10:00 am: Testimony (Mother of Mercy Outdoor Shrine)

10:15 am: Catechesis – Deacon José Correa Pacheco
(Mother of Mercy Outdoor Shrine)

11:00 am: Holy Mass
Principal Celebrant: **Fr. Dante Agüero, MIC**
(Mother of Mercy Outdoor Shrine)

12:45 pm: Puppet show. Ethnic folk dancing. Piñatas
(next to the food tent)

2:00 pm: Rosary and Procession
(Mother of Mercy Outdoor Shrine)

3:00 pm: The Hour of Great Mercy and Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, Benediction with Blessed Sacrament, blessing of religious articles, and raffle of a Divine Mercy image.
(Mother of Mercy Outdoor Shrine)

8:00 am — 4:30 pm: Gift Shop

9:00 am — 5:00 pm:

- ✠ Candles Shrines, Lourdes Grotto and Oratory
- ✠ Confessions (Spanish and English)
- ✠ Kids crafts ✠ Oil in Honor of Saint Faustina

Food Sold All Day

All Encuentro Latino events will be in Spanish

For more information to register a bus, or to volunteer, please call: **1-800-462-7426, Ext.3**
or visit us at: LaDivinaMisericordia.org/encuentrolatino • ShrineofDivinemercy.org/encuentro-latino
Please note: Buses must be registered for this event. To locate us by GPS use this address: 11 Pine Street, Stockbridge, MA 01262.



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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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Solemnity of the Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Mary

**Saturday
Aug. 15, 2026**

Holy Day

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE:

- 9:00 a.m.** Holy Mass
(Livestreamed)
- 1:00 p.m.** Eucharistic Adoration
Confessions
- 1:30 p.m.** Rosary for Life
- 2:00 p.m.** Holy Mass
- 3:00 p.m.** Hour of Great Mercy:
• Chaplet of Divine Mercy
• Benediction
• Blessing of Religious Articles
• Blessing with a Relic of St. Faustina

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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
is
open daily
9:30am -
4:30pm

Find us at:
www.divinemercury.org

**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

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/



Do you feel called to a religious vocation?

VOCATION DIRECTOR

“I’m so glad you’re here.”

Father Donald Calloway, MIC, welcomes you to the Marian Vocation Office in the Marian House of Studies, Steubenville, Ohio.

Just by coming to this page, you’ve shown that you are open to wherever our Lord is calling you.

Whether or not your vocation is as a religious—and whether or not you’re called to the Marians of the Immaculate Conception—I’m here to help you.

Please look through the information we have prepared for you in the Vocation section. If you would like to

glad to send you printed information on the Marians of the Immaculate Conception.

From my own experience, I can tell you that my Congregation is totally consecrated to Mary Immaculate, faithful to authentic Church teaching, obedient to the Pope and Magisterium, and intensely Eucharistic.

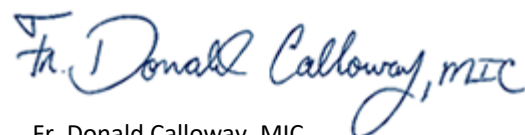
Please feel free to call or email me. You also might want to come to a Vocation Retreat.

You may ask or tell me anything in confidence. You will not receive any phone calls or materials without your request.

Discerning a vocation takes prayer, time, and guidance. Please use this prayer to help you consider where God is calling you.

May our Merciful Savior bless you and guide you.

In the love of Mary Immaculate.



Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC
Vocation Director
<https://marian.org/vocations>



Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC
Vocation Director

VOCATION PRAYER

*Hail Mary, full of grace;
all generations call you blessed.*

*Hail Mother of God, when asked by the angel
to bear the Son of the Most High,
filled with faith, you responded:
“Let it be done unto me.”*

*Holy Mother of Jesus,
at the wedding feast at Cana,
you prompted your Son to perform His first sign.*

*Be with us as we discern our life’s work
and guide us in the way we are called to follow
in the footsteps of your Son.*

*Holy Mother of the Savior,
at the foot of the Cross
you mourned the death of your only Son.*

*Bless and embrace the loving parents
of all priests,
deacons, brothers and sisters.*

*Holy Mother of the Good Shepherd,
turn your motherly care to this nation.*

*Interceded for us to the Lord of the harvest
to send more laborers to the harvest
in this land dedicated to your honor.*

*Queen of Peace, Mirror of Justice,
Health of the Sick
inspire vocations in our time.*

*Let the word of your Son be made flesh anew
in the lives of persons anxious to proclaim
the good news of everlasting life.
Amen.*

*Prayer from the United States Conference
of Catholic Bishops*



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>



IT'S TIME TO SPEAK OUT AGAIN IN OPPOSITION TO PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE

The Massachusetts Catholic Conference has been following two bills that would legalize Physician Assisted Suicide in Massachusetts. House Bill 2505 and Senate Bill 1486, "An Act relative to End-of-Life Options." At present HB 2505 is in the Joint Committee on Healthcare Finance and SB 1486 is in Senate Ways and Means. However, the bills may come to the floor for a vote at any time.

Working together, **we can join health care professionals, disability groups, senior citizens, the infirmed and countless individuals** in saying **NO** to assisted suicide and to stop the legislation from moving forward this session.

Here are some troubling facts to consider before you contact your elected officials:

- 1.) **A DEADLY PRESCRIPTION** - The bill would allow a physician to provide a lethal drug mixture to an individual diagnosed with less than 6 months to live that, when consumed, would cause death. NOTE - The diagnosis could be wrong. Countless individuals have outlived that 6-month diagnosis and enjoyed many more precious months and years with family and friends.
- 2.) **NO REAL SAFEGUARDS** - A vulnerable individual who is physically disabled, depressed, or fears being a "burden" may be subject to undue influence by others to make the choice of PAS.
- 3.) **MISPLACED PRIORITIES** - The primary focus of elected officials should be dedicated to legislation providing quality health care, mental health care and palliative care to the sick and dying – particularly in the underserved, poor and minority communities that suffer the most at the time of need.

Your Voice Matters – Please call today!

Please call or email your elected State Senator and State Representative to voice your opposition. They represent you and should know your views on this topic. You can do this by logging onto [HTTPS://MACATHOLIC.ORG](https://macatholic.org) or scan QR code below. Follow the links to find contact information for your individual State Senator and State Representative via address and zip code link. Stay informed by signing up to receive alerts.

For individuals without internet access, please call the Massachusetts Catholic Conference at 617-746-5630. We will provide you the legislative contact information.



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).

In answer, she heard these words: "Not in the beauty of the color, nor of the brush lies the greatness of this image, but in My grace" (313).



Jesus, I Trust in You