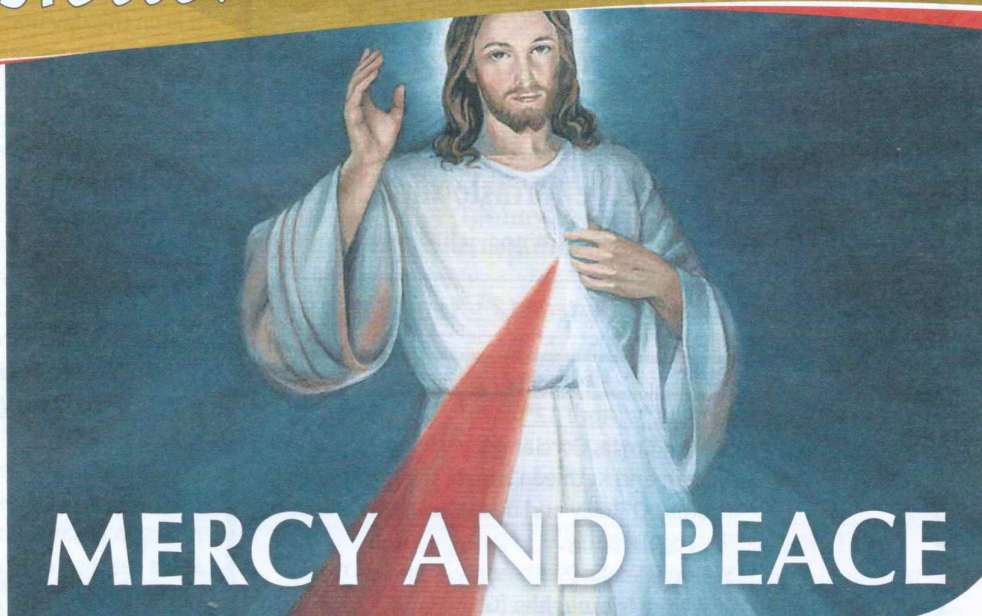


Parish Newsletter



It is noteworthy that, in the Gospel reading for Divine Mercy Sunday, Jesus says to the Apostles on no less than three occasions, 'peace be with you.' The Hebrew word for peace is one of the most important in the Old Testament. It can be translated as 'prosperity, well-being, health, completeness or safety'. While the Greek word for peace in the New Testament includes those qualities, it also describes a cessation of conflict, either within a person or between people or nations.

It could be argued that when the risen Jesus greeted the Apostles with the words, 'peace be with you,' they were both an expression of the divine will and an impartation of that precious gift. As we know, the greatest obstacle to the experience of peace is personal and social sin. In the Gospel for Divine Mercy Sunday, we are told how Jesus breathed out his Spirit on his Apostles; they were inspired and filled by the same Spirit to conspire, to act in the name of Jesus to forgive sins. As successors of those first priests, those of today say in the sacrament of reconciliation, 'through the ministry of the Church may God grant you pardon and peace.' No wonder Jesus told St



Faustina that, 'Humanity will never find peace until it turns with trust to my Divine Mercy' (Diary, 299). On another occasion, Jesus said to Faustina, 'Tell aching mankind to snuggle close to My merciful Heart, and I will fill it with peace' (Diary, 1074).

The decree of the Vatican Apostolic Penitentiary entitled, 'Indulgences attached to devotions in honour of Divine Mercy' grants a plenary indulgence to those who fulfil stipulated requirements 20 days before or after Divine Mercy Sunday. They are:

1) Go to Confession (20 days before, on, or after Divine Mercy Sunday)

2) Receive Holy Communion (20 days before, on, or after Divine Mercy Sunday)

3) Pray for the Pope

4) In any church or chapel, recite an Our Father, Creed and a prayer to the Merciful Jesus (i.e., 'Merciful Jesus, I trust in You!') in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament, or participate in services honouring the Divine Mercy devotion.

If these stipulations are fulfilled sincerely, the Church says that not only are one's sins forgiven, but the temporal punishment due to sin is remitted. Why not avail of this wonderful, gratuitous grace and experience thereby a deep interior peace?

— Pat Collins

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters), ...

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the oblations of your people (and of those you have brought to new birth), that, renewed by confession of your name and by Baptism, they may attain unending happiness.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you. **And with your spirit. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right and just.

Sanctus

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. ...

After the Consecration

The mystery of faith.

We proclaim your Death, O Lord, and profess your Resurrection until you come again.

THE COMMUNION RITE

Behold the Lamb of God, ...

Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

Communion Antiphon (Cf. Jn 20:27)

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that our reception of this paschal Sacrament may have a continuing effect in our minds and hearts.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.



Reflection

Feel the fear and paralysis of the disciples and then the peace and joy Jesus brings.



Lesson

'Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'



Prayer

Lord, help us so to live that what we profess with our lips may be evident in our lives.

