

Sermon for the Feast of St. Faustina Kowalska

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today the Church celebrates Saint Faustina Kowalska, the humble Polish nun chosen by the Lord to be His **“secretary of Divine Mercy.”** In her simplicity, hidden life, and deep union with Christ, she became the messenger of one of the most urgent calls of our time: **“Jesus, I trust in You.”**

Readings remind us that God chooses **“what is lowly and despised in the world”** to reveal His greatness. Sister Faustina was not famous, powerful, or highly educated. She came from a poor family, worked as a housemaid, and only had a few years of formal schooling. And yet, through her, Jesus revealed to the world the depths of His Heart: a mercy that is stronger than sin, greater than despair, and deeper than our misery.

The Lord said to her: **“Humanity will not find peace until it turns with trust to My mercy.”** That message is not just for her time, but for ours. We live in a world torn by division, wounded by sin, and often tempted to hopelessness. And yet, Saint Faustina reminds us that mercy is God’s final word.

Notice how God’s mercy works in her life. She was not spared suffering—she experienced misunderstanding, rejection, physical pain, and spiritual trial. But instead of closing her heart, she allowed all of it to become an offering, united to Christ for the salvation of souls. Mercy is not cheap. It flows from the Cross. And Faustina teaches us that to be people of mercy

is to share in Christ's love that forgives, that suffers-with, that never gives up.

The image of Divine Mercy that Jesus asked her to spread—Christ with rays of red and white streaming from His Heart—shows us the wellspring of our hope. The white ray is water, cleansing us in Baptism. The red ray is blood, poured out in the Eucharist. Mercy is not an idea; it is an encounter with Jesus, living and present in the sacraments.

So what does this feast ask of us? Three things:

1. To trust in Jesus. **“Jesus, I trust in You”** must not just be a prayer we say in difficulty, but a daily attitude of surrender.
2. To receive mercy. We cannot give what we do not have. The sacrament of Reconciliation is where we experience God's mercy most tangibly. Saint Faustina reminds us that no sin is greater than His forgiveness.
3. To practice mercy. In her Diary, she recorded the Lord's words: **“Be merciful, as I am merciful.”** This means showing love in deeds, words, and prayer. Every small act of kindness becomes a ray of His mercy in the world.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Saint Faustina was called an **“apostle of Divine Mercy.”** But her mission is not hers alone. It is entrusted to all of us. In our homes, workplaces, schools, and parishes, we are called to be instruments of mercy—to remind the world that God's Heart is open, that grace is greater than sin, and that hope is stronger than despair.

Let us then, on this feast, renew our trust in Jesus, receive His mercy with humility, and go forth to live mercy in our daily lives. And let us never tire of repeating with faith the prayer she gave us: “**Jesus, I trust in You.**”
Amen.