


# FEAST OF MERCY SUNDAY: *TODAY!* — April 12

## Our Lady of the Rosary Church, Union City

<p><b>April 12, 2026</b></p> <p>Divine Mercy Sunday/Feast of Divine Mercy</p> 	<p><u>ALL MASSES</u> Veneration of the Image of DIVINE MERCY</p> <hr/> <p><u>2:00 pm</u> (after the 12:00 pm English Mass)</p>	<p><b>2:00 - 2:30 pm</b> <b>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament</b></p> <p><b>2:31 - 4:00 pm</b> <b>Pray the Rosary and Chaplet of Divine Mercy</b></p>	<p>ALL MASSES are for the intentions of The DIVINE MERCY (JESUS) given to Saint Faustina (Secretary of Jesus, The Divine Mercy)</p> <p>Divine Mercy Feast message, from JESUS, will be handed out and shared.</p>
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Among all of the elements of devotion to The Divine Mercy requested by our Lord through Sr. Faustina, the Feast of Mercy holds first place. The Lord's will with regard to its establishment was already made known in His first revelation to the saint. In all, there were 14 revelations concerning the desired feast. Once after insisting, "Do all you possibly can for this work of mercy," JESUS added: "My Heart rejoices on account of this feast." Sister Faustina concluded: "After these words, I understood that nothing can dispense me from the obligation which the Lord demands of me." (Diary, 998)

Our Lord's explicit desire is that this feast be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Pope John Paul II made the surprise announcement of this change in his homily at the canonization of Sr. Faustina on April 30, 2000. There, he declared: "It is important then that we accept the whole message that comes to us from the word of God on this Second Sunday of Easter, which from now on throughout the Church, will be called 'DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY.'"

### 9-day Novena

In fact, Jesus Himself dictated the intentions for each day of the novena which starts on Good Friday and He desired for it to be celebrated as a preparation for the solemn observance of this feast.

### Veneration of the Image

"I want the image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it." (341)

### A Special Promise of Mercy

"I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My mercy." (Diary, 1109)

### Prepare Yourself Properly

Our Lord's words to Saint Faustina about this requirement to be merciful are very strong and leave no room for misinterpretation:

"Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, but there must also be acts of mercy ... 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, 742)

Thus, to fittingly observe this Feast of Mercy, we should:

1. Celebrate the Feast on the Sunday after Easter;
2. Sincerely repent of all our sins;
3. Place our complete trust in Jesus;
4. Go to Confession, preferably before that Sunday;
5. Receive Holy Communion on the day of the Feast;
6. Venerate\* the Image of The Divine Mercy;
7. Be merciful to others, through our actions, words, and prayers on their behalf.

\* To venerate a sacred image or statue simply means to perform some act or make some gesture of deep religious respect toward it because of the person whom it represents - in this case, our Most Merciful Savior.