

Eucharistic Apostles of Divine Mercy

- L-R: Bev, Rosemary, Fran, Olga, Carolyn, Ellen, Gerry, and Mickey (others not pictured)
- Join us on Thursdays at 3 pm in the church in front of the Blessed Sacrament to recite the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. All are welcome!



Tell us about your group?

Our group, started by Carolyn Davidson, began reciting the Chaplet of Divine Mercy here at St. B's in 1997. We gather weekly on Thursdays at 3 pm to pray and sing the Chaplet in front of the Blessed Sacrament. We also pray a Novena (9-day prayer) leading up to Divine Mercy Sunday, which is April 28 this year.

What is the Divine Mercy devotion?

In the 1930's, Saint Faustina, a Polish nun, received a message of mercy from the Lord that she was told to spread throughout the world. Jesus also revealed to her special ways to live out the response of His mercy—one of which is the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, as both a novena and a prayer during the three o'clock hour, which is known as the hour of Christ's death. The Chaplet of Divine Mercy is recited using ordinary rosary beads and can be spoken or sung. The prayer said on the ten small beads of each rosary decade is "for the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and the whole world."

What does this devotion mean to you?

Carolyn: Jesus told St. Faustina that the **greatest** sinner has the **most** right to His mercy. God's mercy to mankind has even been called an astonishment for angels and incomprehensible to saints! **Olga:** The words "Jesus I trust in you" are so powerful for our sins and the sins of the world. **Fran:** David and I lived in Nigeria when we were first married. I am often reminded of the terrible sufferings of the Nigerian people due to war but inspired by their devotion to the Apostolate of Divine Mercy. **Bev:** The benefits of this devotion are out of this world!

Why do we pray the Chaplet for the sick and dying?

Jesus told St. Faustina "Pray as much as you can for the dying" because He wants no soul to be lost. Many of those in our group take this to heart and have been with others during their time of death, which took place during the three o'clock hour. **Carolyn:** My husband Bill died at 3:20 pm on Pentecost Sunday. This was comforting for my family and me that his soul was at peace. **Gerry:** My wife Maureen lived with MS for 35 years and had cancer. She recited the Chaplet of Divine Mercy daily and experienced Our Savior's Divine Mercy promise of a peaceful and pain-free death. **Bev, Gerry, and Olga:** We were with Sr. Marie Arenas at her passing at 3:10 pm during the Hour of Mercy.

What and when is Divine Mercy Sunday?

Jesus also revealed to St. Faustina an image of the Risen Lord, from whose heart shone two rays, one "pale" (symbolizing water) and the other red (representing blood) with the words "Jesus, I trust in you." When St. Faustina was canonized a saint in 2000 (she was the 1st saint of this millennium), her fellow Polish countryman Pope John Paul II proclaimed that the Second Sunday of Easter would be known as Divine Mercy Sunday.

Tell us the story of the Divine Mercy billboards?

After the death of Sr. Marie Arenas, Gerry Greer and Paul DiMartini took over selecting and funding the Divine Mercy billboards. Thirteen displays have appeared in various San Diego locations between September and April—three are up currently in:

- Pacific Beach on Garnet Avenue by Sprouts Market
- College Area at University and College Avenue
- Normal Heights right off the Interstate 15 south at the El Cajon Boulevard exit