

The Confraternity of Christian Mothers

A confraternity or sodality is a voluntary association of the faithful, *established* and guided by competent ecclesiastical authority for the promotion of special works of Christian charity or piety. It is a group of people who commit themselves to a common purpose.

In the case of the Confraternity of Christian Mothers, it is a group of women committed to praying for their children, especially in matters of faith and their practice of the faith. Its membership is open to all women of our parishes in our AFC (not only St. Mary's) who are willing to make a monthly commitment to praying for their own children and the children of our parishes, which is more important now than ever.



The Christian Mothers Confraternity was founded on the first day of the month of May in 1850 in France by Louise Josson de Bilhem (the wife of a court official), under the special patronage of Mary under the title of "Mother of Sorrows." St. Mary's has been affiliated with the Confraternity of Christian Mother since May 24, 1900, under the direction of Fr. W. M. Stulz.

With all that is happening in the world today, it seems a great time to let women know about this very important group and encourage them to consider joining. After the priest, there is no one in the world who can influence and guide their children in their religion, faith and vocation as the Christian Mother.

At St. Mary's, the Christian Mothers has the First Friday Mass of each month offered for their members, and they gather after the 7:15 a.m. First Friday Mass to pray a special set of prayers together out of the Christian Mothers prayer book that lasts about 10 minutes; they also gather to pray the Rosary for deceased members at their funeral. Our goal for Christian Mothers is to have a Holy Hour quarterly throughout the year to pray for our families so that they may form the minds and hearts of their children to live a Christian way of life. We look forward to inviting guest speakers to our meetings and parishes, and other special events throughout the year.

The annual membership dues go towards paying for Mass intentions for 1st Fridays; Masses offered for deceased members; as well as speakers and materials (prayer book and certificate of membership) given to each member. Even if you are not able to come to the First Friday Masses and offer the prayers with the other members, you can pray them on your own, spiritually joining them together.

I would like to encourage you to consider joining. If you would like more information, or to renew your membership, or get a new prayer book, please contact:

Tina Losleben, President
32667 270th St.
Sleepy Eye, MN 56085
Email: eda@nuveramail.net
Phone: (507) 794-2937



Divine Mercy Sunday

Please join us to celebrate this extraordinary Day of Grace
Sunday, April 16, 2023 – 3:00 pm
Church of St. Mary's, Sleepy Eye



The Feast of Mercy is a Celebration and a Summation of God's Merciful Love

The Feast of Mercy focuses on God's mercy as an event! It focuses on God's continuing action of mercy throughout salvation history. This Feast is a summation of His mercy active in our lives now. It is because of His mercy that we have forgiveness of sin and new life as children of God. This needs to be celebrated!

The Feast of Mercy is a Day of Atonement

It is an annual celebration like the Day of Atonement - all sins and punishment are washed away in His infinite mercy. It is a day of forgiveness of sins for those who approach the Eucharist and the Sacrament of Reconciliation. The focus of this paschal event is on God's mercy for us sinners and His free gift to those who turn to Him with trust.

The Feast of Mercy - the Desire of the Lord

In a series of reported revelations to Saint Faustina Kowalska, Our Lord specifically and repeatedly asked that the Feast of Mercy be established on the octave day of Easter. "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." At the request of her spiritual director, Saint 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."

3:00	Exposition
3-4:00	Adoration Confessions
4:00	Divine Mercy Chaplet Benediction

"On that day, the depths of My Mercy will be open for all..."