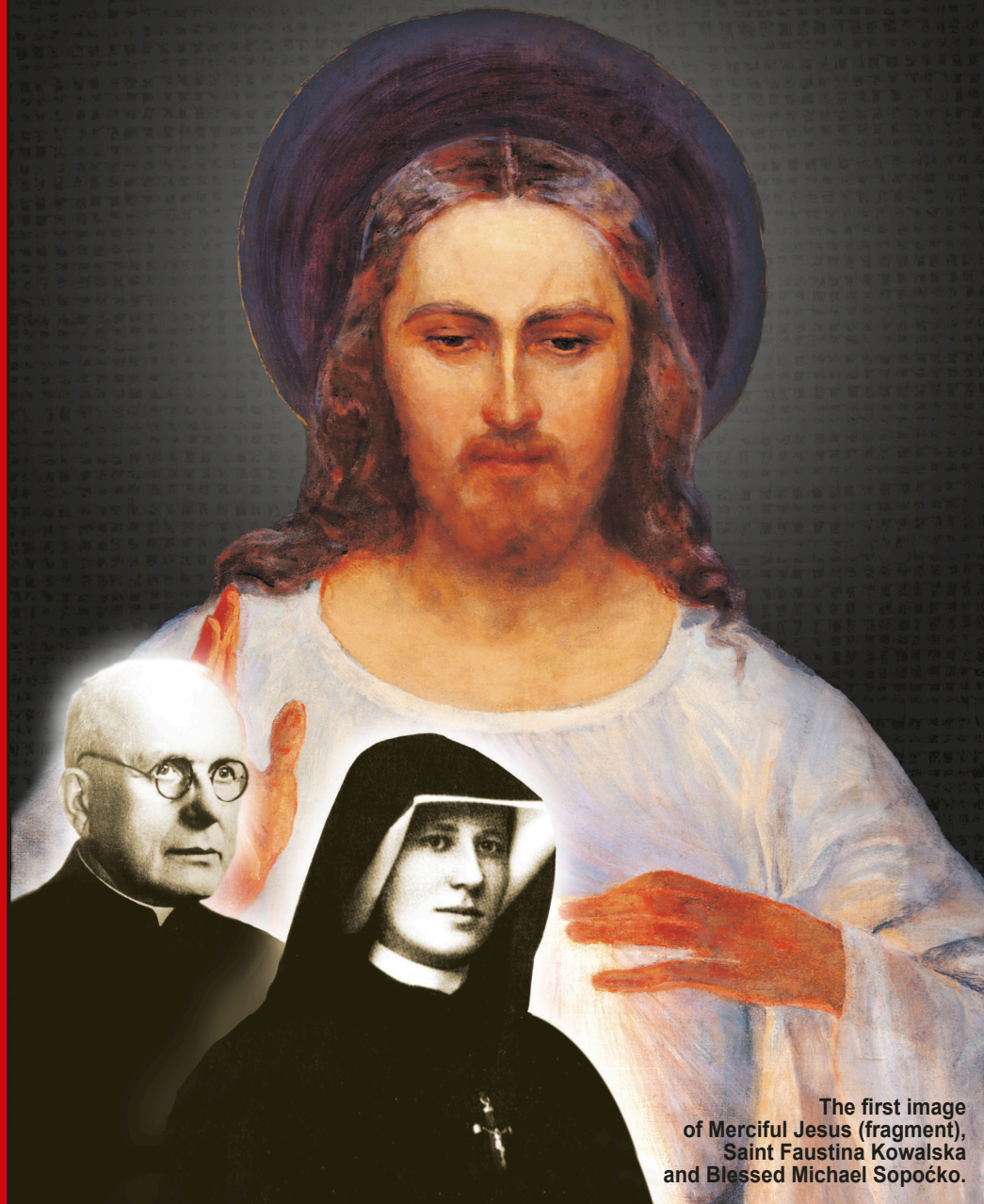


LOVE AND MERCY



The first image of Merciful Jesus (fragment), Saint Faustina Kowalska and Blessed Michael Sopoćko.

“I desire that the whole world know My infinite mercy” (Diary, 687).

To pass on the message of Divine Mercy addressed to the entire world, the Merciful God chose and shaped two Apostles of God’s love: Saint Faustina Kowalska and the Blessed Michael Sopoćko. And even though they tried to fulfil their mission with heroic zeal, they did not live to receive credit for it. Instead, they received sanctity and eternal remembrance.

THE MESSAGE OF DIVINE MERCY

The Saviour wishes the whole world to learn about Divine Mercy, for each person to turn to it with trust, to discover the beauty and richness of graces of Christian mercy. The essence of the devotion to the Divine Mercy is the attitude of trust toward God, a desire to fulfil His will, and practising works of mercy toward our neighbours, entrusting them to God’s boundless love and mercy. This is also a condition for the fulfilment of the promises which the Lord Jesus associated with new forms of venerating the Divine Mercy.

THE IMAGE OF MERCIFUL OF JESUS

“I am giving people a vessel with which they are to come to Me for graces. That vessel is this image with the inscription: Jesus, I trust in You” (Diary, 327).

“I promise that the soul that will venerate this Image will not perish. I also promise victory over its enemies here on Earth, especially at the hour of death” (Diary, 47).

THE FEAST OF DIVINE MERCY

“I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners (...). The soul that accepts the Sacrament of Reconciliation and receives the Eucharist shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and avoid punishment; on that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flows will be opened. **Let no soul fear to draw near to Me,** even though its sins be as scarlet” (Diary, 699).

THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

“At the hour of their death, I defend as My own glory every soul that will say this chaplet; **or when others say it for a dying person, the indulgence is the same.** When this chaplet is said by the bedside of a dying person, God’s anger is placated and his unfathomable mercy envelops the soul” (Diary, 811).

“Even if a soul is like a decaying corpse, so that, from a human standpoint, there would be no hope of restoration and everything would already be lost – it is not so with God. **The miracle of Divine Mercy restores that soul in full**” (Diary, 1448).

“There are moments and there are mysteries of the Divine Mercy over which the heavens are astounded. Let our judgment of souls cease, for God’s mercy is extraordinary” (Diary, 1684).

THE HOUR OF MERCY

“At three o’clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion, particularly in My abandonment at the moment of agony” (Diary, 1320).

“In this hour you can obtain everything for yourself and for others simply by asking; **it was the hour of grace for the whole world** – mercy triumphed over justice” (Diary, 1572).

SPREADING THE DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

“...do whatever is within your power to spread devotion to My mercy. I will make up for what you lack. (...) When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but must radiate them to other souls. **Souls who spread the honour of My mercy I shield throughout their entire lives** as a tender mother shields her infant...” (Diary, 1075).

WORKS OF MERCY

“You are to show mercy to your neighbours always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to excuse or abstain from it. I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy toward your neighbour: **first – by deed, second – by word, third – by prayer.** (...) By this means a soul glorifies and pays reverence to My mercy” (Diary, 742).

“When the Last Day comes, we shall be judged from this, and on this basis we shall receive the eternal verdict” (Diary, 1158).

(Numbers in brackets refer to paragraphs in the “Diary” of Saint Sr. Faustina)

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