

Peace, Wounds, and Mercy: The Heartbeat of Christ for the World

1. 🕊️ What Is Mercy?

In the Gospel, Jesus enters the locked room and says:

“Peace be with you.” Then He shows His **wounds** — not hidden, but glorified. These wounds are not just reminders of pain — they are the **doorways of mercy**.

In her Diary, St. Faustina wrote:

“Mercy is the greatest attribute of God.” (Diary, 301)

It is God’s **love that stoops down**, meets us in misery, and lifts us up.

◆ **Mercy is not mere pity** — it is **God’s active love** to heal, forgive, and restore.

2. 💖 What Is Divine Mercy?

Jesus told St. Faustina:

“Divine Mercy is the flow of love from My Heart which was pierced by a lance on the Cross.” (Diary, 848)

🩸 So Divine Mercy is not an abstract idea.

It is **Christ crucified and risen**, offering forgiveness, new life, and peace.

And what does He say in the Gospel today?

“Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven...” (Jn 20:22–23)

This is the institution of the **Sacrament of Reconciliation** — the very **channel of Divine Mercy**.

Divine Mercy, then, is:

- The mercy of the **Father**, poured through the **Son**,
- applied by the **Holy Spirit**,
- and administered through the **Church**.

3. 🙏 How Do We Obtain Divine Mercy?

Jesus gave **5 ways** through St. Faustina, often called the **"ABC of Mercy"**:

- **A** – Ask for His mercy (prayer, especially the **Chaplet of Divine Mercy**)
- **B** – Be merciful to others (acts of charity and forgiveness)
- **C** – Completely trust in Jesus

“The graces of My mercy are drawn by means of one vessel only — and that is **trust**.”
(*Diary, 1578*)

 The **Sacrament of Confession** and **Holy Communion on Divine Mercy Sunday** (with trust and repentance) is especially powerful. Jesus promises:

“The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.” (*Diary, 699*)

That is a **spiritual renewal equivalent to a second Baptism** — a truly extraordinary grace.


4. Why Is Divine Mercy Necessary Today?

The world is “locked in fear,” just like the disciples were.

We chase **what is urgent**, and forget **what is eternal**.

We want **comfort without conversion**, **freedom without forgiveness**, and **happiness without holiness**.

“Humanity will not find peace until it turns with trust to My mercy.” (*Diary, 500*)

 The problem isn't just moral failure — it's **forgetting who God is**.

And in forgetting Him, we forget **who we are** — sinners in need of mercy, and beloved children meant for glory.

5. What Is NOT Divine Mercy?

Divine Mercy is not:

- A **license to sin**.
- A way to **escape justice**.
- A sentimental feeling of “God loves me just the way I am,” with no call to change.

As St. Faustina wrote:

“Let the sinner not be afraid to approach Me. But if they do not repent, My justice will prevail.” (*Diary, 1728*)

 The Blood and Water that flowed from Christ's side is mercy — but it is also a **call to conversion**.

6. Can I Obtain Mercy Without Being Merciful?

No.

Jesus is clear: “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.” (Mt 5:7)

And again, in the Diary:

“If a soul does not exercise mercy in some way, it will not obtain My mercy on the day of judgment.” (*Diary, 1317*)

To receive Divine Mercy means to **become a vessel of it**:

- Forgive someone who hurt you.
- Be patient with someone who is struggling.
- Pray for those who are lost.

✨ A Real-Life Example:

A woman once came to the Divine Mercy Shrine in Poland, angry and grieving over her husband’s betrayal. She refused to forgive him. But after praying the Chaplet daily, she finally said: “Jesus, if You can forgive me, give me the grace to forgive him.”

She wept for hours in Confession — and afterward, she said:

“I didn’t just receive mercy. I became mercy.”

That’s the power of Divine Mercy.

Unlocking the Doors

Jesus comes to us today as He did on that first Easter evening:

- Through locked doors,
- Into frightened hearts,
- Saying: *“Peace be with you.”*

And He shows us His wounds.

Not to shame us — but to **heal us**.

If you are broken, sinful, tired, or ashamed... **run to His mercy**.

As St. Faustina said:

“The greater the sinner, the greater the right to My mercy.” (*Diary, 723*)

Closing Prayer

Jesus, I trust in You.

Your mercy is my refuge,

Your wounds are my healing,

Your Heart is my home.

Help me to live mercy,

to forgive as I have been forgiven,

and to proclaim, with St. Thomas,

“My Lord and my God!” Amen.