

# 1. What Is the Chaplet of Divine Mercy?

- The **Chaplet of Divine Mercy** is a prayer given by **Jesus Himself** to **St. Faustina Kowalska**, a Polish nun, in the 1930s.
- It is prayed using **ordinary Rosary beads**, but with different prayers.
- The Chaplet is:
  - **Christ-centered** (focused on the Passion)
  - **Intercessory** (offered for sinners, the dying, and the whole world)
  - **Simple and direct**, which resonates strongly with many men.

*“Through this chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My will.”*

—Jesus to St. Faustina (Diary, §1731)

## 2. The Core Message of Divine Mercy

The entire devotion can be summed up in one phrase Jesus requested be placed on the image:

**“Jesus, I trust in You.”**

Key theological points:

- Divine Mercy is **not sentimental forgiveness**  
→ It flows directly from **Christ’s sacrifice on the Cross**
- Mercy does **not eliminate justice**  
→ Mercy fulfills justice through the Passion
- God’s mercy is **always available**, but must be **freely received**

This devotion calls men to:

- **Trust**, not self-reliance
- **Humility**, not control
- **Conversion**, not presumption

## 3. The History: St. Faustina & the Church

- **St. Faustina Kowalska (1905–1938)** was a humble nun with little education.
- Jesus appeared to her repeatedly, asking her to:
  1. Promote trust in His mercy
  2. Spread the Chaplet
  3. Establish **Divine Mercy Sunday**
- Despite early misunderstandings and delays, the Church:

- Fully **approved the devotion**
  - Canonized St. Faustina in **2000**
- **St. John Paul II**, a fellow Pole, was instrumental in spreading Divine Mercy worldwide.

 Providential note:

- **St. John Paul II died on the Vigil of Divine Mercy Sunday (2005)**

## 4. Divine Mercy Sunday


- Celebrated on the **Second Sunday of Easter**
- Established by **St. John Paul II in 2000**
- Jesus made an extraordinary promise:

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

(Diary, §699)

### Conditions (simple and attainable):

1. **Sacramental Confession** (close to the feast)
2. **Holy Communion** on Divine Mercy Sunday
3. **Trust in Jesus**
4. **Works of mercy**, at least in intention

 This is often described as a “**second baptism**” in grace.

## 5. Indulgences Associated with Divine Mercy

### Partial Indulgences

A **partial indulgence** is granted to the faithful who:

- Pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- Devoutly invoke Christ’s mercy (e.g., “*Jesus, I trust in You*”)

### Plenary Indulgence (Divine Mercy Sunday)

Under the usual conditions:

1. Confession
2. Holy Communion

3. Prayers for the Pope's intentions
4. Detachment from all sin

Plus:

- Participation in Divine Mercy devotions **or**
- Prayer before the Blessed Sacrament, even simply:

“Merciful Jesus, I trust in You”

## 6. Why the Chaplet Matters—Especially for Men

- It is a **battle prayer** offered:
  - For sinners
  - For the dying
  - For the world
- Jesus said priests and laypeople alike should pray it at the **hour of death**
- It forms men in:
  - **Spiritual leadership**
  - **Intercession**
  - **Confidence in God, not self**

*“When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as the just Judge but as the merciful Savior.”*  
(Diary, §1541)

## 7. Closing Line for Your Cor Event

“Men, this prayer reminds us that no sin is greater than God’s mercy, and no man is beyond redemption. The only thing Christ asks of us is trust.”