



MERCY *in* ACTION

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Future site of the Divine Mercy Shrine

Welcome to the Holy Ground! The Future site of the Divine Mercy Shrine is located in the coastal city of Encinitas in Southern California and is a mission project of the Divine Mercy Hills Foundation of Southern California (DMHFSC).

May this first issue of our Newsletter be sealed in the most precious Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The mission of building and developing the Divine Mercy Shrine in Southern California is the reason behind the formation and establishment of the DMHFSC. Our foundation, established in the summer of 2012 is a 501(c)3 organization. We are composed of officers and members belonging to different communities of San Diego County who have committed their time, talent and treasure towards the endeavor of putting their faith and trust in the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is by HIS Divine Grace, Will and

Divine Intervention that Jesus, the Divine Mercy, called each one of us to this mission to save souls. Each one is called in a unique and personal way, touching our lives beyond expectation, human understanding and reason. It is not by coincidence, but by “God-incidence” that we have come together. Each of us has experienced HIS unfathomable Mercy, an intimate encounter that has turned and changed our lives. We have one thing in common, that is, the passion to love and serve the Lord Jesus Christ even in the midst of pain, suffering, sickness, brokenness, fears, doubts, rejections and oppositions. For in Jesus is Love and Mercy itself!

Holy Ground

There are prayer groups and ministries from different parishes who now come to this site to pray the Holy Rosary and the Divine Mercy Chaplet on any day and time convenient to them. We foresee this Divine Mercy Shrine to be a future pilgrim site from all corners of the world, believers

and non-believers, for conversion of sinners, reparations of our sins and the sins of the world, for the weak and strong in faith, for the lukewarm and lost souls. Souls seeking for healing of body, mind, heart, soul and spirit with expectant faith.

In the past several months a number of holy priests have come, prayed and blessed the site with holy water.

It was on February 16, 2013 that a 20-ft cross was raised on top of the hill of the site, without use of any heavy equipment, but merely the bare hands of more than 50 volunteers from neighboring parishes.

This marked the dedication of the site as Holy ground. The event brought to life memories of Jesus Carrying the Cross, nailed and died on the Cross, where blood and water gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of Mercy for us. The ocean view brings to mind HIS ocean of Mercy waiting to be poured out to souls who will come to approach HIM asking for HIS

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Testimonial: A Personal Encounter with the Divine Mercy: 'Build Me a Shrine'

By Zarina Cruz, **President**

It is with great humility that I am sharing with you my deep encounter with Jesus, the Divine Mercy. It all began with a 2x3 card with the Image of the Divine Mercy and chaplet prayer in the back. This was handed to me by a close church friend in mid-summer 2008. Immediately I was drawn to the picture and the beautiful prayer pierced my heart. I was magnetized to the Image that I felt I need to know more about this prayer and this Image that speaks to my soul. That led me to read the Diary of St. Faustina Kowalska, Divine Mercy in My Soul.

From there my devotion to the Divine Mercy evolved and the messages I found in the Diary, and have received a number of times from the Image I have on my wall at home, set me afire for this devotion. When HE spoke and ordered me, "Bring me to church," I initially took it literally and took off the wall the 24x30 framed Image of the Divine Mercy to my parish, St. Elizabeth Seton in Carlsbad, and offered it to our pastor wanting to share the graces that flow from that Image to our parishioners. Not having a place for it in our church, I took it back home and went back to our pastor with a smaller Image for our daily chaplet prayer in our chapel. By God's grace, he gave us permission to pray the Divine Mercy chaplet and Novena, right after our daily mass at 8:30 am. This we began in October 2008, and continue to do to this day in our chapel/church, with 20-30 people faithfully and devoutly in prayer with us.

From there the evolution of the devotion blossomed all with the work of HIS hands and promptings of the Holy Spirit. In April 19, 2009, for the very first time in our church, we celebrated Divine Mercy Sunday with fervent prayers before the Blessed Sacrament, Exposition and Benediction. Since then, every year thereafter we celebrate this Feast of Mercy, the Sunday after Easter Sunday, as designated by Jesus to be the Feast of Mercy. This year April 12, 2015 will be our 7th

year to celebrate this Feast in our Church, where all are invited to join us from different parishes of San Diego and North County. We would like to encourage all our brothers and sisters in Christ to initiate this celebration in their respective parishes, to receive the abundant indulgence promised by Jesus on this Feast of Mercy.

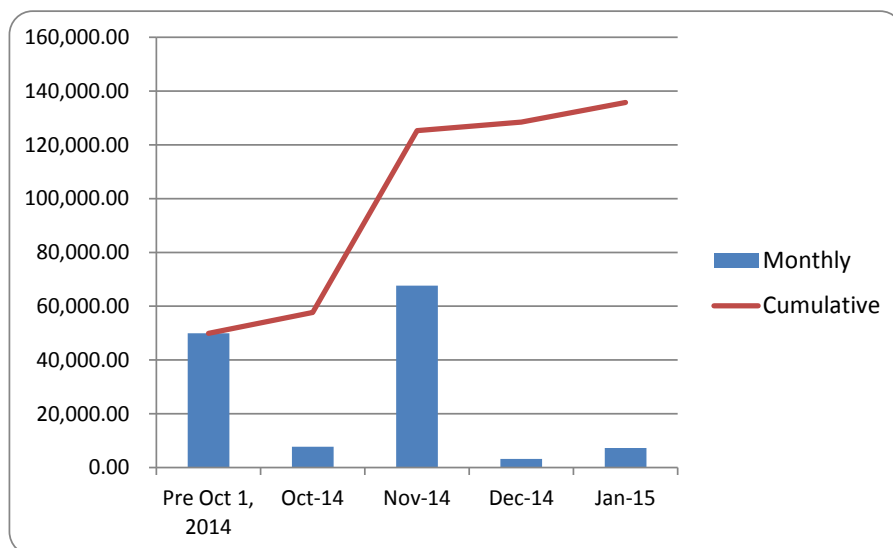
In October 2011 we formed a Divine Mercy Cenacle group, Eucharistic Apostles of The Divine Mercy, that meets 2 times a month, 1st and 3rd (or 5th) Friday of the month, to enrich our Catholic faith through the study of Sacred Scripture, the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and the Diary of St. Faustina Kowalska.

In May 2012, before the Blessed Sacrament in the Divine Mercy Chapel of St. John Church in El Cerrito, Northern California, I asked from my heart what else He wants me to do, for I felt there was something missing, that there is something else HE would like for me to do. Amazingly, to my surprise HE answered, "Build me a Shrine." You can just imagine my shock and awe upon hearing this word from Him, speaking to my heart and soul. Questions of, "Me? Shrine? Build? How? Where? etc". Upon calming down, I surrendered to HIS Will, submitting to HIM with complete Trust and Love. "Lord, I never can say no to you. Thy Will be done. With You ALL things are possible. Just lead me and guide me and show me the Way."

We are all created to know Him, to love Him, and serve Him. We are here on this earthly journey for His purpose, and His purpose only. Our spiritual journey is designed by our Master of Creation. It is up to us to take on His calling, through the motion, inspiration and promptings of the Holy Spirit. Let us keep our faith alive, put mercy in action, word, and prayer. Let us follow HIS footsteps and commands in our daily life, for we are all destined to be with our CREATOR in His heavenly kingdom of eternal Joy and Peace. Jesus died for us on the cross for our sanctification and salvation. HE is coming back for us, to bring us all home. He wants no Soul left behind!

To be continued in Issue 2...

Pledges Received



5 ELEMENTS OF THE DIVINE MERCY

1. Image of the Divine Mercy- Jesus said to me, *"Paint an image according to the pattern you see, with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You. I desire that this image be venerated, first in your chapel, and (then) throughout the world."*

(Diary, 47)

2. Feast of Divine Mercy- I again heard words such as these: *"My image already is in your soul. I desire that there be a Feast of Mercy. I want this image, which you will paint with a brush, to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter; that Sunday is to be feast of Mercy."* (Diary, 49)

3. Chaplet of Divine Mercy- The words with which I entreated God are these: *"Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world; for the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us."*

(Diary, 475)

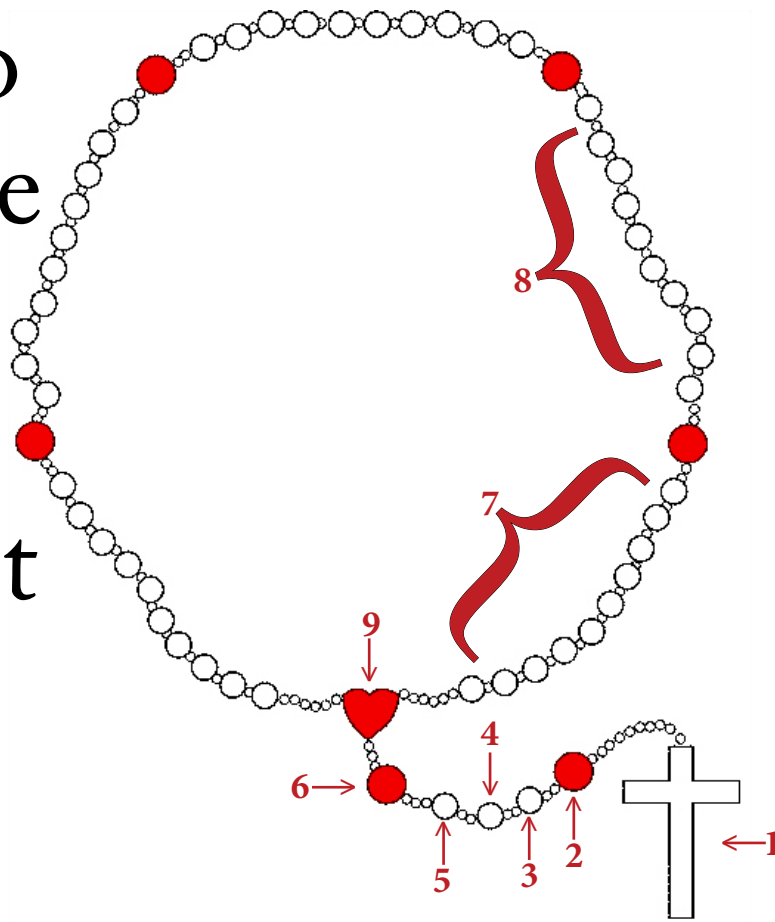
4. Novena of Divine Mercy- The Lord told me to say this chaplet for nine days before the feast of Mercy. It is to begin on Good Friday. *"By this novena, I will grant every possible grace to souls."*

(Diary, 796)

5. Hour of Great 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. This is the hour of great mercy for the whole world. I will allow you to enter into My mortal sorrow. In this hour, I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of My Passion..."*

(Diary, 1320)

How to pray the Divine Mercy Chaplet



1. Make the Sign of the Cross

2. Say the optional Opening Prayer: "You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world, O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us. (Diary, 1319)

O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You! (3x)

3. OUR FATHER, Who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy Name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

4. HAIL MARY, full of grace, the Lord is with thee. Blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

5. APOSTLES' CREED: I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; on the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

6. On the "Our Father" bead before each decade: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.

7. On the "Hail Mary" beads of each decade: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

8. Repeat 6 & 7 for four more decades

9. At the conclusion of the 5 decades, on the medallion, say: HOLY GOD, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (Repeat 3 times)

10. CLOSING PRAYER (Optional): Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless, and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us, and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments, we might not despair, nor become despondent, but with great confidence, submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy Itself. Amen

*continued from pg 1...
Mercy.*

On September 12, 2014, the Encinitas property was purchased and legal title was transferred to the Divine Mercy Hills Foundation of Southern California.

To this day we continue to witness mysteries, miracles and wonders of HIS merciful love. The constant manifestations of Jesus' hands on this mission; top to bottom, front and back, side to side, all point out to HIS strong command, "Build me a Shrine." (See Testimonial by Zarina Cruz, pg 2). HE handpicks and chooses all servants who will work with us on this mission project. There are challenges not difficulties, obstacles not blocks, countless possibilities, with GOD everything is possible. HE will always open the door for us to proceed forward until HIS mission is completed. We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us!

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

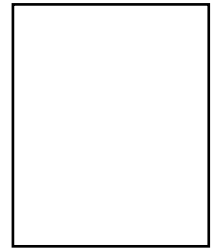
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Fr. Michael W. Barry SS, CC



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Upcoming Events

†March 7, 2015

Lenten Retreat
Saint Elizabeth Seton Church,
Carlsbad, CA

†April 12, 2015

Feast of the Divine Mercy
Divine Mercy Sunday
Saint Elizabeth Seton Church,
Carlsbad, CA

†Summer 2015

Divine Mercy Retreat
Details TBA

†October 1-16, 2015

Pilgrimage to Italy, Poland,
Czech Republic & Holy Land
If you are interested please
call (619) 890-2789

DMHFSC MISSION STATEMENT

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- **†Dedicated to the development of a Divine Mercy Shrine located in Southern California**
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- **†Spreading to a fallen world the Divine Mercy message and devotion**
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- **†Drawing people of all nations, cultures, and beliefs to a place of meditation in prayer for graces to the fountain of mercy-the image of the Divine Mercy.**
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- **†Venerating this image with trust in our Lord Jesus Christ who said, “I promise that the soul who will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over its enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I myself will defend it as, My own glory...By means of this image I shall grant many graces to souls.**
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- **†Through this shrine to proclaim to the whole world God’s unfathomable Mercy.**
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