On one sunny day, while Zarina, John and Rowena were putting up the 14 Stations of the Cross around the hilly shrine site, a cloud-formation symbolic of the Holy Spirit in the form of a dove was noticed hovering over the 20-ft long Cross hewn on the hilltop. (Photo of cloud taken by John Oertle Feb. 26, 2015)

The month of September reminds us of the many graces God bestows upon us through Mary, and alongside her, Jesus, the Divine Mercy. September 8 marks the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary and September 12 celebrates the Feast of The Most Holy Name of Mary.

It is also in this month, on the 13th of September 1935, that Our Lord revealed interiorly to St. Faustina the profound, imploring words of the Divine Mercy chaplet, which are: “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).

The chaplet, when invoked by St. Faustina for the first time, averted punishment upon the earth that an angel was about to carry out.

Then, the very next day the 14th, which was the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross, Jesus gave St. Faustina the rest of the chaplet which she was to recite on the rosary beads.

The 13th has particular significance because on the same day in 1917 Our Lady entrusted the three children at Fatima, Portugal in Europe with the prescription for world peace in the form of the daily rosary. It was not the last time. On the same day years later in 1948, halfway across the world in Asia, Our Lady, dressed in white and holding a rosary in her right hand, appeared again. She revealed herself as the “Mediatrix of All Grace” to a humble novice in Lipa, Batangas, Philippines showering the Carmelite convent with miraculous petals of roses in the days to follow. She again came with an urgent plea for peace meant for the very times we live in.

It is the month when we honor Mary thrice. The third time we honor Mary, we approach her as Our Lady of Sorrows on September 15.

Indeed Mary carries us in our sorrows in the crossing of her arms. St. John Paul II, the Mercy Pope, exhorts us to “turn your eyes incessantly to the Blessed Virgin; She is the Mother of Sorrows and also the Mother of Consolation, who can understand you completely and help you. Looking to her, your sorrows will become serenity, your anguish change into hope, and your grief into love.”

It is also to Mary that Pope Francis has dedicated the upcoming Jubilee Year of Mercy under her title as the “Mother of Mercy”. This is the icon of Mary that “guarded” the “Gate of Dawn” in the City of Vilnius. The gate, which was deemed to be the least defensible in the city and thus entrusted to the Mother of Mercy is the same gate over which the image of Divine Mercy was eventually enthroned for public veneration in 1935. - Gen Silverio & Sal Pilar
**Testimonial: A Personal Encounter with the Divine Mercy:**

**Manifestations at the Site and at Home**

By Zarina Cruz, President

*continued from Issue 2...*

The Lord continues to manifest to all that the choice of this parcel is His will, not ours; and that the site He has chosen is Holy Ground.

On November 13, 2014, some faithful devotees of Jesus, Mary and Joseph came to the site at 3PM to pray the Holy Rosary and Divine Mercy Chaplet at the top of the hill by the cross. John Oertle went there to pray after our Board Meeting that ended at 2:45 PM and saw the group from St. Joseph Cathedral Parish. While in prayer they saw a huge angel up above them in the sky overlooking them and above the future shrine. Not one, but all of them saw the angel very clearly with its face looking down, wings spread open wide, and its head held high and mighty. This strongly confirms the 24-yrs Divine Mercy devotee by the name of John Milkas who had said a few days before that this property is heavily guarded and protected by over 100 angels. Praise be to God for all the holy angels to light and guide, to rule and guard this holy ground.

On December 8, 2014, Feast of the Immaculate Conception, some members of the Immaculate Conception Rosary prayer group from different parishes in San Diego went to the site for the first time, to pray the Chaplet and the Fifteen Mysteries of the Rosary at the foot of the cross, on top of the hill. Leading this prayer group was Eleanor Bihis of Escondido. After hours of standing, at the end of the prayers, as we turned around to leave, we looked up in the sky directly at the sun (about 2PM). For a glorious 10-15 minutes, we all witnessed the Miracle of the Dancing Sun. Such beauty, color, and exhibition of God’s amazing power, and amazing grace which was manifested at that very moment, confirmed to us His hands to be all over this mission project.

This was the second time this Dancing Sun was witnessed on site by visiting servants of the Lord. The first time was seven months ago, May 8, 2014 a little after 6PM, while praying the chaplet and just before the sunset, with Lilia Ravalco and Janet Tabayoyong, of St. Michael Parish, South Bay, San Diego, again on the very top of the hill. No one expected any of these supernatural events to happen, as they were there to see the land parcel and to pray, discern, and feel His Divine Presence. They all got what they came for, by God’s Grace and Will.

On December 31, 2014, my birthday, we had a small gathering of family and friends at my home for a Thanksgiving prayer. We prayed at 3PM, the Divine Mercy Chaplet followed by a Holy Rosary prayer. Thereafter we had testimonials and witnesses of God’s amazing grace and love, mysteries and wonders of the work of His hands. It was a wonderful time of sharing how the Lord touches our lives. In lieu of birthday gifts, I requested donations to the DMHFSC, for the building of the Divine Mercy Shrine. With some guests we had a casual conversation of how we got started with the Divine Mercy Ministry.

My personal calling to this ministry happened on October 5, 2008. (Note: that to be 10/05) That being the day when I saw the Image of the Divine Mercy on the Sacred Host during consecration at Sunday Mass at St. Elizabeth Seton, Carlsbad, CA. October 5 was the day St. Faustina died in 1938. Long story short, the last topic of our talk of the evening with the last few guests was this amazing experience and encounter with the Divine Mercy.

When all guests were gone and after the party clean-up, we had an hour to wait for the strike of midnight countdown for the New Year 2015. While waiting for the hour to pass, I decided to open and read the birthday cards/ envelopes received that evening from friends and family. Lots of special wishes of joy, peace and love touched my heart. But the biggest surprise to end the year 2014 and to begin the new 2015 that touched my soul, was the cash/check donations to the DMHFSC received from different people of different amounts, totaling $1,005. That happens to be 10/05 noted above. That is no coincidence, but a pure and simple “God-incidence”!

GOD is good, all the time. All the time, God is good. What a grace to end a year and begin a new year! Another big birthday surprise with the hands of Jesus all over it, and St. Faustina in the midst of it.

To believers no explanation is necessary, and to non-believers no explanation is ever enough. We are all here for God’s purpose. To know Him, love Him, and to serve Him. We are called to be holy, to be saints. How are we responding? How are we doing? How are we walking on this earthly exile? How can we save many souls in danger of eternal fire? GOD wants no soul left behind. He sent His only begotten Son to bring us all back to His eternal kingdom of Joy, Peace, and Love.

Diary entry#1578 of Saint Faustina: Let souls who are striving for perfection particularly adore My mercy, because the abundance of graces which I grant them flows from My mercy. I desire that these souls distinguish themselves by boundless trust in My mercy......I will provide them with everything they will need to attain sanctity. The graces of My mercy are drawn by means of one vessel, that is---trust. The more a soul trust, the more it will receive. Souls that trust boundlessly are a great comfort to Me, because I pour all treasures of My graces into them. I rejoice that they ask for much, because it is My desire to give much, very much...

As many graces overflow and many answered prayers are received, how do we give back? How do we return love for love? How do we share the many blessings we receive, even undeserved ones? How do we put our faith and trust in action. Faith without action is dead faith.

Jesus is counting on you, brothers and sisters in Christ. Let Him hold you by the hand as you walk this journey with us. Many souls are lost. Millions of them are out there. Let us all gather and save souls by bringing them to His door of Mercy. Soon this door will close and only His door of Justice will be left open.

Invite Jesus into your heart. Ask Him sincerely what you can do for Him this time, instead of asking Him to do something for you ALL the time. Whatever your heart tells you to give, trust Him, He can never be outdone with His generosity.

Jesus, I Trust in You!

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**Prayer to Our Blessed Mother Mary**

O Mary, my Mother and my Lady, I offer you my soul, my body, my life and my death, and all that will follow it. I place everything in your hands. O my Mother, cover my soul with your virginal mantle and grant me the grace of purity of heart, soul and body. Defend me with your power against all enemies, and especially against those who hide their malice behind the mask of virtue. O lovely lily! You are for me a mirror, O my Mother! (Diary, 79)
5 ELEMENTS OF THE DIVINE MERCY

1. Image of the Divine Mercy - Jesus said to me, I am offering people a vessel with which they are to keep coming for graces to the fountain of mercy. That vessel is this image with the signature: “Jesus, I trust in You.” (Diary, 327)

2. Feast of Divine Mercy - 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 very depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross. These rays shield souls from the wrath of My Father. Happy is the one who will dwell in their shelter, for the just hand of God shall not lay hold of him. I desire that the first Sunday after Easter be the Feast of Mercy. (Diary, 299)

3. Chaplet of Divine Mercy - Say unceasingly the chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite mercy. I desire that the whole world know My infinite mercy. I desire to grant unimaginable graces to those souls who trust in My mercy. (Diary, 687)

4. Novena to the Divine Mercy - On each day you will bring to My Heart a different group of souls, and you will immerse them in this ocean of My mercy, and I will bring all these souls into the house of My Father... I will deny nothing to any soul whom you will bring to the fount of my mercy. On each day you will beg My Father, on the strength of My bitter Passion, for graces for these souls. (Diary, 1209)

5. Hour of Great Mercy - I remind you, My daughter, that as often as you hear the clock strike the third hour, immerse yourself completely in My mercy, adoring and glorifying it; invoke its omnipotence for the whole world, and particularly for poor sinners; for at that moment mercy was opened wide for every soul. In this hour you can obtain everything for yourself and for others for the asking; it was the hour of grace for the whole world – mercy triumphed over justice. (Diary, 1572)
Visitor Testimonies...

During a group prayer on site, praying the Chaplet, Rosary, and Way of the Cross, “I saw Mother Mary’s face in the grotto.” On the way up praying the Way of the Cross, I saw her. And on the way down, she was still there. The grotto is still being built. No image or statue whatsoever, just a nitch of the stone was there.

-Willie Esteves, Divine Mercy Hills Shrine; May 13, 2015

The Third Mystery is The Descent of the Holy Spirit

“On Wednesday, August 26, 2015, my wife and I joined the group that welcomed Fr. Greg Bramlage who came to the future site of the Divine Mercy Shrine to add his priestly blessings with those of other priests who did the same on previous occasions. Afterwards, sitting on one of the benches under the shade of a tree, Zarina, Genny and I prayed the chaplet of Divine Mercy and the Rosary. While praying the third glorious mystery- the Descent of the Holy Spirit—suddenly I felt a strange warmth on the top of my head and all over my face and cheeks, as if my entire head was on fire. Just as suddenly, a whiff of cool breeze enveloped my whole body. (This strange experience reminded me of Elijah on Mt. Horeb when God manifested Himself to him in a gentle whisper of wind.) That evening when I attended Fr. Bramlage’s healing service at St. Elizabeth Seton’s church, as I was prayed over, I was “slain” by the Holy Spirit and stayed sprawled on the church floor for several mysterious moments. What a Spirit filled day!” - Sal Pilar

DMHFSC MISSION STATEMENT

- Dedicated to the development of a Divine Mercy Shrine located in Southern California
- Spreading to a fallen world the Divine Mercy message and devotion
- 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.
- 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.
- Through this shrine to proclaim to the whole world God’s unfathomable Mercy.

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