



“THE NAME OF GOD IS MERCY”

“Why does God never tire of forgiving us?” This question was posed to Pope Francis in his book, THE NAME OF GOD IS MERCY.

Pope Francis relied, “because God is mercy, and because mercy is the first attribute of God. MERCY IS THE NAME OF GOD.”

This Sunday, the Second Sunday of Easter is DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY.

The response to today’s responsorial psalm gives us an insight into the way God’s mercy was evident in the Old Testament.” O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his love steadfast love endures forever”.

Hebrew, the language of the Old Testament, has a word for life-long love that is richer and deeper than English has ever conceived of, and that’s *hesed*. Based in a covenantal relationship, *hesed* is a steadfast, rock-solid faithfulness that endures to eternity. It is the love that God loves. It’s not just a feeling but an action, because *hesed* is often active. It’s translated as “mercy” or “loving kindness”, but neither of these words fully convey the power of *hesed* because this love is so enduring that it persists beyond any sin or betrayal to mend brokenness and graciously extend mercy and forgiveness.

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PETITION & THANKSGIVING LETTERS

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And *hesed*, God’s mercy, is never more so evident than at Easter, because in his resurrection Jesus has revealed his Father’s merciful love, after accepting the cross. According to the Gospel of John after the resurrection, Jesus appeared to the apostles in the upper room and all the doors were closed for fear of the Jews. They were obviously shocked at seeing Jesus standing there before them. Jesus was not a ghost because he had a body, he ate with them and his resurrected body was not conditioned by space and time. We are told that Thomas called the Twin was not there at the time.

And when the Apostles mentioned to Thomas about the appearance of Jesus he scoffed at the idea of it all. A week later Jesus appeared again. This time as we know Thomas was present. And when the Risen Jesus invited Thomas to see his hands and to put his hand into his side and doubt no longer but believe, Thomas confessed, “My Lord and my God”.

We have no idea who Thomas’ twin was. But perhaps Thomas’ twin is us when we doubt. But if we believe, then the assurance of Jesus’ words to Thomas will ring true for us as well, “Have you come to believe because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe.”

Reflection by Glenn de Cruz CSsR

Novena notes



Divine Mercy Sunday

Year C

28th April 2019

Readings & Responses for the Week

Sun, 28 April Divine Mercy Sunday	Ac 5:12-16; Rev 1:9-13,17-19; Jn 20:19-31 Give thanks to the Lord for he is good, for his love has no end.
Mon, 29 April St. Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doctor	Ac 4:23-31; Jn 3:1-8 Blessed are they who put their trust in God.
Tue, 30 April St. Pius V, Pope	Ac 4:32-37; Jn 3:7-15 The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed.
Wed, 1 May St Joseph, the Worker Labour Day (Public Holiday)	Ac 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21 This poor man called and the Lord heard him.
Thu, 2 May St. Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor	Ac 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36 This poor man called and the Lord heard him.
Fri, 3 May SS. Philip and James, Apostles	1 Cor 15:1-8; Jn 14:6-14 Their word goes forth through all the earth.
Sat, 4 May	Ac 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21 May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

WEEKDAY MASS (MON - FRI)

Time: 6.30am, 12.15pm, 6.30pm

Confession: Half an hour before Mass

SUNSET MASS (SAT)

Time: 6.30pm

SUNDAY MASS

Time: 8am, 10am, 12noon, 5.30pm

PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Time: 8am, 6.30pm

SATURDAY MORNING MASS

Time: 7am

SATURDAY NOVENA DEVOTION

English: 8am, 9.30am, 11am, 1pm, 4pm, 5.30pm

Mandarin: 2.30pm

Confession: After every Novena Service except after the 11am service.

DAYS OF OBLIGATION

Time: 7pm (Eve of Day of Obligation)
6.30am, 12.15pm, 7pm

Novena notes

28th April, Divine Mercy Sunday

The message of The Divine Mercy is that God loves all of us. And God wants us to recognize that mercy is greater than our sins, so that we can call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.

The Divine Mercy message is one we can call to mind simply by remembering ABC:

A - Ask for His Mercy

God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, repent of our sins and ask Him to pour His mercy upon us and upon the whole world.

B - Be Merciful

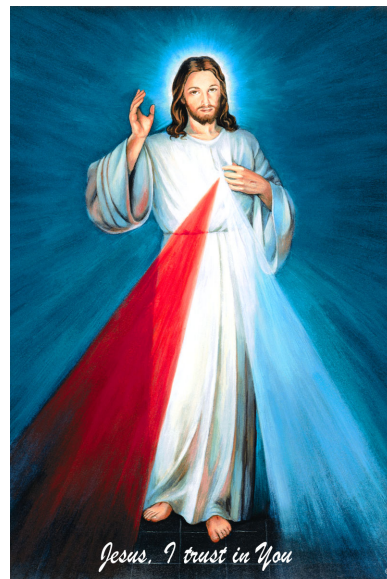
God wants us to receive His mercy and let it flow through us to others. He wants us to **extend love and forgiveness to others** just as He does to us.

C - Complete trust in Jesus

God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.

The Divine Mercy Image

The Image of Divine Mercy is far more than a religious icon or painting. It is an actual visual representation of the person of Jesus as He appeared to St. Faustina. Jesus instructed her to have the vision painted with the words "Jesus I Trust in You" inscribed on the painting. 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 depths of Jesus' tender mercy when His agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross. The Image represents the graces of Divine Mercy poured out upon the world, especially through Baptism and the Eucharist.



"DAWN Skill Development Programme for foreign domestic workers"

Registration is open for Baking & Cooking (Basic & Advance), Basic Cake Decoration, Sewing & Handicraft from July 2019 till December 2019.

The 2nd Batch 2019 Care-Giving Course is scheduled to begin on 5 May 2019.

Classes will be conducted on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of each month from May 2019 till November 2019.

Dates : 28th April 2019, 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th May 2019, 2nd and 9th June 2019.

Time : 10 am to 2 pm

Venue: DAWN,
Good Shepherd Place,
9, Lorong 8, Toa Payoh,
Singapore 319253.

Contact: 96702880 (Suzeth),
82694546 (Rowena), or 82333728
(Sr. Barbara)

1st May, Labour Day

Please take note that there will be **NO** lunch time Mass on 1st May being public holiday. Masses at 8am and 6.30pm.

Youth Retreat

Our Redemptorist Mission Team is conducting a Retreat for Youth aged 14-17 to which all are welcome to learn about leadership qualities from the Gospels.

Dates : 3rd to 6th June 2019

Price : \$100

Venue : Majodi Centre (Johor Bahru)

Come and experience a Pilgrim leadership Retreat. Learn how to become an authentic witness. Learn how to share the joy of knowing Jesus. Return renewed with faith, hope and love and hearts ready for action. Interested Party may sign up at www.tinyurl.com/rmt2019 or email us at rmt@novenachurch.com

RCIA Chinese Programme

The New Chinese RCIA programme (2019/2020) for Adults will begin on 29th June 2019.

Application forms can be obtained at the Church Office.

RCIA English Programme

We will be starting our new RCIA Programme. It will begin on 2nd July 2019 to 19th May 2020. RCIA is for adults - 18 years and above, who are interested to know more about the Catholic faith. The application form can be obtained at the Church Office. The closing date for application is on 18th May 2019.