

Of Seeds and Flowers

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William R. Pfeiffer - Director

Mary's Field, Ltd. - PO Box 99 - Hebron, CT 06248 - 860.530.1253 - wisdom@marysfield.org

"MY MERCY IS GREATER THAN MY JUSTICE" - JESUS

Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun, now Saint Faustina, reported visions and visitations from Jesus and conversations with Him between 1934 and 1938. Jesus asked her to paint a picture depicting His merciful divinity (pictured right) being poured out from His Sacred heart and 14 times specifically asked her for a feast of Divine Mercy to be established on the first Sunday after Easter. The most comprehensive revelation can be found in Diary entry 699:

"My daughter, tell the whole world about my inconceivable mercy, I desire the Feast of Mercy to be a refuge and a shelter for all souls and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of my mercy. The soul that will go to confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment. On that day are opened all the divine floodgates through which graces flow. Let no soul fear to draw near to me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no

mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come from the very depths of my most tender mercy. Every soul in its relationship to me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from the depths of my tenderness. It is My desire that it be celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the fount of My mercy.



The first Sunday after Easter is called "Divine Mercy Sunday"

In the painting of Jesus, Jesus Himself explained to St. Faustina that, "The two rays represent blood (in red on the left) and water (in white on the right)" (Diary 299) Remember the evangelist John, who, when a soldier on Calvary pierced Jesus's side with a spear, the soldier saw **blood and water** flowing from it. (John 19:34) The image of Jesus, the Divine Mercy, is to have a special place of honor on the Feast of Mercy, a visual reminder of all that Jesus did for us through His Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

OTHER WORDS OF JESUS TO ST. FAUSTINA: *"Let all mankind recognize My unfathomable mercy, it is a sign for the end times; after it will come the day of justice. I want the image solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter, and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it."* (Diary 341)

The Feast of Mercy emerged from the very depths of my mercy... every soul believing and trusting in My mercy will obtain it. (Diary 420) *"Yes, the first Sunday after Easter is the Feast of Mercy, but there must also be deeds of mercy, which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to your neighbors always and everywhere."* (Diary 742)



In the Catholic faith:

To venerate does not mean to worship. Worship and praise are due only to God. We never adore or worship statues or pictures or paintings. We VENERATE THEM or show honor, reverential respect, feelings of love, respect honor for the person and their life depicted. Like a family photo.

As you read the Diary of Faustina Kowalska, you find this little 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) Immediately after these words and without any further explanation St. Faustina records this unexpected request of Our Lord: *"At three o'clock, (each day), 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... In this hour, I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of Me in virtue of my Passion."* (Diary 1320) About 4 months later, again, without any introduction, St. Faustina penned these words of our Lord: *"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."*



Cindy, I and three of my children visited the National Shrine of Divine Mercy, in Stockbridge MA, last May. We arrived during Mass while a priest from Africa was giving his homily and stayed for the rest of the Mass. After Mass, a lady in the vestibule told Cindy and my daughter a true story about the priest from Africa who just celebrated the Mass.

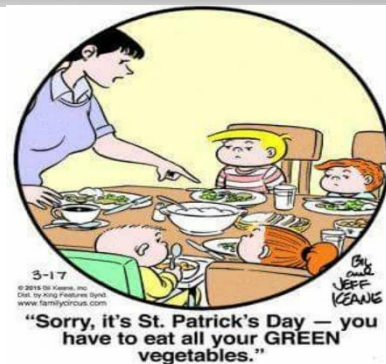
were unjustly jailed. The priest held a rosary in his hand during the negotiations. One of the guards tried to rip it from him and the guard's hand was badly burned when he touched the rosary. In fear, then the guards released the seminarians and then the priest demanded all the political prisoners be released. Again, in fear, they released all the prisoners. The priest was a real hero and Mary, the Rosary, did their part! All information, books, the painting of Jesus and other religious items are available at ShopMercy.org.

"If you do not believe when I tell you about earthly things, how are you to believe when I tell you about those of heaven?" John 3: 12.



People have been lying about Christianity since the day of the Resurrection. The call to be a Christian is so demanding that people have to deny it is real or that it works. Then it goes away. *"Enemy- occupied territory, that is what the world is. It is the story of how the rightful king has landed, you might say in disguise, and is calling us all to take part in a great campaign of sabotage."* C. S. Lewis

Do not be surprised or scandalized by the sinful and the tragic. Do what you can to be "peace" and to do justice, but never expect or demand perfection on this earth. It usually leads to false moral outrage, a negative identity, intolerance, paranoia, and self-serving crusades against "the contaminating element.", instead of "becoming a new creation" ourselves.



VISION AND REALITY

In 2 Thessalonians 6-7 St Paul speaks of the "RESTRAINERS OF EVIL". I suggest that there are 4 restrainers from evil that keep us, and the Church, any church, on the right path.

- 1. Natural law /Conscience** - This is the law that is implanted at birth in the minds and hearts of everybody on earth. E.G. the law that says, "We should not kill babies." Parents have the primary RIGHT AND RESPONSIBILITY to raise their own children.
- 2. Church/Bible** - provide God's plan for the welfare and salvation of all of God's children. This demands a much higher spiritual life than the Natural Law. E.G. Keep Holy the Sabbath. The Beatitudes.
- 3. Marriage and Family** - The marriage between one man and one woman is the basis of all society and the

future of all civilizations.

4. **Government** - has the serious responsibility of providing for the common good of ALL its citizens in the least intrusive way possible. Justice for ALL, freedom of religion and speech included.

I'm not in the business of politics but if any of these "restrainers" are being violated it is the serious task of all clergy to speak out and protect the souls of their flock from being seriously hurt. Too many of our government agencies are doing very bad things to the citizens who they are bound to protect. E.G. Pro-life advocates (Just ask Mark Houck) and their families are being attacked in the middle of the night in their own homes by armed FBI agents causing the whole family, especially the children, to be terrorized. REALLY, REALLY TRUE! Mark was chained to a table for 6 hours while they charged him. Charges were dropped. Not an isolated incident. Attacks like these, allowed to continue, the time will come when false charges will not be dropped.



"Reproductive freedom" a euphemism for abortion. I never in my whole life thought I would see a receipt for the body parts of a human being. Even worse, a "menu" for the prices for these body parts. I have a copy of FEES FOR SERVICE from Advanced Bioscience Resources, Inc. in Alameda, Calif. Many or most of the baby body parts come from the Univ. of Calif. San Francisco, and paid for by your tax money from the National Institute of Health E.G. 2nd trimester specimen (13-24 weeks) per Specimen **\$340**, 1st trimester specimen (8-12 weeks) **\$550**. Overnight delivery, **\$120**. Thank you, Mr. Biden, Ms. Pelosi and Pope Francis for not admonishing them on their visit to the Vatican!

"The way we came to understand love was that He laid down his life for us; we too must lay down our lives for our brothers." 1 John 3:16

We are living in a Post Modern, Post Truth world where truth is whatever makes you FEEL GOOD. Ralph Martin reports that in a recent trip to Perth Australia the parliament removed many restrictions on abortion, including the need for an investigation if, in an intended abortion, the baby is born alive but subsequently dies, since such an inquiry might make people feel "Uncomfortable". **MY, O My!** -We wouldn't want to do that!!

I supported the "Black Lives Matter" movement when it first burst on the scene. Then, I read their mission statement and was surprised to learn that its leaders admitted to being trained Marxist revolutionaries committed to "dismantle the patriarchal practice" and "disrupt the Western-prescribed nuclear family." (Mike Gonzalez and Andrew Olivatro, "The Agenda of Black Lives Matter is Far Different than the Slogan," The Heritage Foundation July 3, 2020, <https://www.heritage.org/progressivism/commentary>. Eventually, BLM cleverly scrubbed these references from their website but their intention to destroy marriage and the family is still quite clear.

As an aside, I share sad news about the BLM Movement, co- founder, Patrice Couliers, a devout socialist, bought 4 homes with BLM money donated to fight racism. I didn't march with Martin Luther King in the 60's so that future "leaders" could corrupt his legacy for financial gain. This really hurts!

"There is always something there to threaten your sanity, wreck your plans, or be petty. But I continue to believe with MLK, JR. that the universe tends toward truth - even in small things."

"When people stop believing in God, they do not believe in nothing; they believe in ANYTHING." - G. K Chesterton

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable- if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." Philippians 4:8



"Well, lad, you caught me fair and square. ... But truthfully, as far as leprechauns go, I've never been considered all that lucky."

SPEAKING SOFTLY

Matthew, my son, showed me a picture of the largest star, called a Hypergiant. It is so big that a jet travelling 559 mph. would take 1110 years to travel around it one time. ONE STAR! – AND GOD HAS HUNG OUT 1 TRILLION GALAXIES, 4000 solar systems. We are a small boat in a VERY LARGE OCEAN. Good to be humbled, to feel our smallness, because that is who we are. ***“Science leads us, step by step through the whole range of creation, until we arrive at length, at God”*** - DeValois

Take a pencil and sharpen it with a VERY sharp point and make a quick dot on a piece of paper and THAT DOT WILL BE TOO BIG to show the size of the earth in relationship to all the galaxies, universe, solar systems, etc. WE ARE TINY. FEEL IT, AND WITH HUMILITY AND TOTAL DEPENDENCE ON God!!.

Those who are looking through microscopes and those who looking through telescopes see the same pattern: These scientists- cosmologists- are saying that all reality, that everything in our world, EVERYTHING is in RELATIONSHIP WITH EVERYTHNG ELSE!!! Then mystics like Teilhard de Chardin come along and teach that ***“the very physical structure of the universe is LOVE.”*** Mindboggling!!!! All this orbiting, exploding, expanding, and even contracting is Infinite Love at work. God certainly IS!! This is why spiritual giants like Thomas Keating say, ***one act of love*** changes the universe and conversely, ONE BAD ACT changes the universe. **BAD ACTS** - think abortion or Ukraine or evening news or politicians or all the lying to further whatever cause is currently popular.

Man being created in love cannot live without love. Either he loves God, or he loves himself and the world. Without faith, we are blind. (a la Einstein) He who does not see, does not know, he who does not know does not love, he who does not love God loves himself and his pleasures. He fixes his heart on things that pass away like smoke. He cannot know the truth, only falsehood because he has no light. He is in a mist. If he had light, THE LIGHT, he would see this. So, you see, nothing is solid in this life but God. St. John Vianney ***“Love and sin are contagious!”***



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“But those who hope in the lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and not be faint.” Isaiah 40:31

“The time will come when men will not listen to true teaching, but will follow their own desires, and will collect for themselves more and more teachers who will tell them what they are itching to hear. They will stop listening to the truth and will wander off to fables. As for you be steady and self-possessed.” Timothy 4:3

Take my hand
And lead me to salvation.
Take my love,
For love is everlasting.
And remember the truth
that once was spoken:
To love another person is
to see the face of God.

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