

Dear Padre,

What is Divine Mercy Sunday?

Pope John Paul II declared Sr. Faustina Kowalska a saint of the Church on April 30, 2000, and in a decree dated May 23, 2000, the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments stated that “throughout the world the Second Sunday of Easter will receive the name Divine Mercy Sunday, a perennial invitation to the Christian world to face, with confidence in divine benevolence, the difficulties and trials that [we] will experience in the years to come.”

Saint Faustina was born in 1905 and spent most of her life in Poland, in the Congregation of the Virgin Mary of Mercy. She experienced an extraordinary union with God. She received exceptional graces, revelations, visions, hidden stigmata, the ability to read souls, and the gift of prophecy.

One of the images that was revealed to Faustina was that of the merciful Jesus, touching his Sacred Heart, from which beams of red and white light came forth. This image and her devotion to the divine mercies gathered thousands of supporters throughout the world. We still see the traditional image of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in many of our churches today. In some churches, we might see the newer image, inspired by the saint. Saint Faustina Kowalska died in 1938 at the age of thirty-three, leaving an impressive mystical legacy. She is a disciple of God’s divine mercy for the twenty-first century. ●

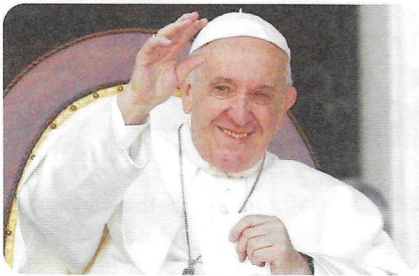


[The Redemptorists / DearPadre.org](http://TheRedemptorists/DearPadre.org)

Do you have a question for the Padre?

Go to DearPadre.org to send your question and to learn more about *Dear Padre*.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
April 8 <i>Annunciation of the Lord</i> Is 7:10–14; 8:10 Heb 10:4–10 Lk 1:26–38	April 9 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 4:32–37 Jn 3:7b–15	April 10 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 5:17–26 Jn 3:16–21	April 11 <i>St. Stanislaus, Bishop and Martyr</i> Acts 5:27–33 Jn 3:31–36	April 12 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 5:34–42 Jn 6:1–15	April 13 <i>Easter Weekday</i> Acts 6:1–7 Jn 6:16–21	April 14 <i>Third Sunday of Easter</i> Acts 3:13–15, 17–19 1 Jn 2:1–5a Lk 24:35–48



A WORD FROM POPE FRANCIS

The story of Thomas is in fact the story of every believer. There are times of difficulty when life seems to belie faith, moments of crisis when we need to touch and see. Like Thomas, it is precisely in those moments that we rediscover the heart of Christ, the Lord’s mercy.

HOMILY, ROME, APRIL 24, 2022