

Jesus Christ - King of Mercy

The Year of Mercy is Ending, but not God's Mercy

Today's gospel brings us back to that moment when Jesus was nailed to the cross.

It seemed that truth and love had failed; but in the midst of all the noise of jeering and mocking, there was a silent witness.

Above Jesus there was an inscription: "This is the King of the Jews".

That Inscription was the profound silent witness to the truth of Jesus – that He is indeed the King, not just of the Jews, but the King of the universe.

And that is what we celebrate this Sunday – Jesus Christ, the King of the universe, as we come to the end of the Church year. On the cross Truth, Love and Mercy prevailed.

Jesus is not only King of the Universe, but also the King of Mercy. And He offers each one of us, His Ocean of Mercy and Love continually as we see so vividly in this Gospel.

The Good Thief says, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

The Good Thief is the only one in the NT to call him by name - Jesus. How fitting that the last Gospel of Luke for the year shows the Mercy of Jesus on the Cross.

Jesus teaches us today how rich in mercy God is to us and how merciful we are called to be in return.

I have opened My Heart as a living fountain of mercy... On the cross, the fountain of My mercy was opened wide by the lance for all souls — no one have I excluded!...

Between 4 and 5 am this Sunday Morning, Pope Francis will close the Holy Door at St. Peter's Basilica ending the Jubilee Year of Mercy.

Note that as the last Holy Door closes it does not close to keep us out, but closes to keep us within the Mercy of Jesus.

Note: The remaining Quotes are directly from Jesus to St. Faustina as recorded in her Diary.

Because Jesus died on the Cross at 3 pm, everyday between 3-4 pm is known as the Hour of Great Mercy.

"In this hour you can obtain everything for yourself and for others for the asking."

Jesus tells St. Faustina during this hour to make the Stations of the Cross, if not able, then step into the Adoration Chapel for a moment, and if not pray where you are, if only for a very brief moment.

He wants us to receive the Graces flowing from the Cross. In another words, He wants us to recall His Sacrifice of Love and Mercy.

My Dear Friends, although the Holy Doors will be closed each Catholic Church has 7 Doors of Mercy and Love that remain open to us each and every day.

These Doors of Mercy and Love are the doors of the 7 Sacraments that Jesus gave His Church and you and me.

Two of those Doors can be received daily if we so choose. The Doors to the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.

"When you go to confession, to this fountain of mercy, ... the Blood and Water which came forth from My Heart always flows down upon your soul Here the misery of the soul meets the God of mercy." ..."

In His great love for us, the Lord Jesus gave us a great miracle of mercy: the sacrament of the Holy Eucharist.

Several times in her Diary, St. Faustina writes of seeing the red and pale rays coming,... from the Sacred Host;...

So too, with the eyes of faith, we should see in every Host the merciful savior pouring Himself out as a fountain of mercy for us.

The Year of Mercy is ending and we've had a year to learn to be merciful. God wants spontaneous acts of mercy. Even more He wants us to become Stewards of Mercy.

There is a story of a Math Teacher who wanted to ask her students the question, if there are five people in your family, and 10 apples how many apples does each person get.

However, mistakenly the actual questions she gave to the class on the paper to answer was. "If there are 5 people in your family and 1 apple to be shared, how many apples does each member of your family get?"

One little girl wrote:

Each member of my family will get 1 apple.

- If grandpa had bought an apple, he would give it to my grandma who is sick.
- Grandma would give it to her favorite grandchild, which is me.
- But I would give it to mummy,
- But mummy would give it to daddy who travels to the city to work every day..
- So, everyone in the family will have an apple.

Let us Pray:

Lord Jesus, help us to be merciful as You are merciful. Let us see that all are Your children and remember that we are not to judge.

Let us witness the good news of salvation to the sinner and never judge anyone as unworthy or hopeless. Just the Good Thief repented at the last moments of his life, let us see that this is great hope for all and grant that we never grow weary in our efforts to bring the light of salvation and mercy to all. Amen.

Praise Be Jesus Christ, King of the Universe and Mercy,
Now and Forever, Amen!