

How to Pray the Chaplet of The Divine Mercy

Optional Opening Prayer A

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.

Optional Opening Prayer B

O Blood and Water,
which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of mercy for us,
I trust in You!



Step 1 - Begin with the *Sign of the Cross*, then pray one *Our Father*, followed by one *Hail Mary*, and then the *Apostles Creed*.

The Sign of the Cross

In the name of the Father,
And of the Son,
And of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (Our Father)

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Hail Mary

Hail Mary, full of grace. The Lord is with thee.
Blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners,
now and at the hour of our death. Amen.

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell;
On the third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge
the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.
Amen.

Step 2 - Then on the *Our Father* bead of a rosary chain, pray the following:

"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."

Step 3 - On the ten *Hail Mary* beads say the following:

"For the sake of His sorrowful passion,
have mercy on us and on the whole world."

(Repeat **Step 2** and **Step 3** for all five decades).

Step 4 – Conclude by praying three times the following:

"Holy God, holy mighty One, holy immortal One,
have mercy on us and on the whole world."

Optional Closing Prayer

Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless
and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible,
look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us,
that in difficult moments we might not despair
nor become despondent,
but with great confidence
submit ourselves to Your holy will,
which is Love and Mercy itself.

On the *Second Sunday of Easter* the Church celebrates *Divine Mercy Sunday*. Saint Faustina, whose writings tell the message of Divine Mercy, was born Helena Kowalska in Glogowiec, Poland on August 25, 1905. When she was nearly twenty, she entered the *Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy*. The year following, she received her religious habit and the name Sister Maria Faustina. She added "of the Most Blessed Sacrament" as permitted by the customs of this particular congregation of sisters.

According to Sister Faustina, beginning in the early 1930's she received from Jesus a message of mercy that she was told to spread worldwide; and asked to become the 'apostle of God's mercy', an example of how to be merciful and an instrument for emphasizing again God's plan of mercy for the world.

After much suffering, Sister Faustina died of tuberculosis in Krakow, Poland on October 5, 1938. Her reputation for spiritual maturity and holiness grew, as did the spreading of the message of Divine Mercy. On April 18, 1993, Pope John Paul II raised Sister Faustina to sainthood.