

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

Outline/Description of Ministry

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

This message and devotion to Jesus as The Divine Mercy is based on the writings of Saint Faustina Kowalska, an uneducated Polish nun who, in obedience to her spiritual director, wrote a diary of about 600 pages recording the revelations she received about God's mercy. Speaking of Sr. Faustina and the importance of the devotional message contained in her Diary: Pope (Saint) John Paul II called her "the great apostle of Divine Mercy in our time." Even before her death in 1938, the devotion to The Divine Mercy had begun to spread.

Activities / Outcome

Our first Sunday of the Month Divine Mercy devotion continues to steadily grow in devotees and we usually number between 30 – 45 attendees. The 9 Day Easter Novena is a well attended event. Parish participation at Maida Vale has increased to the point where it is now the largest attended in the Hills area. Parishioners from neighbouring Parishes are now regular among the faithful and are assisting in its continued evangelisation.

As Churches were closed due to COVID-19 restrictions we were unable to pray the 9 Day Easter Novena in 2020. However, by December of 2020 some normality had returned to Parish life and we were able to enjoy our usual annual Christmas Thanksgiving after the final first Sunday Devotion of the year. About 40 devotees adjourned to the Parish Hall for fellowship and afternoon tea. It was an opportunity to thank Jesus for his Divine Mercy and his message of hope and compassion. Despite the challenges and difficulties of 2020 it should be seen as a year of purification and sanctification for the Church. Despite the Holy Mass and the Eucharist which is the summit of our faith being denied to many congregants we should always remember that God is in control and all things happen for His good.

How many members

Volunteers are involved in the preparation of the devotion: It goes without saying that all Parishioners and visitors are warmly welcome to extend an invitation to family and friends who wish to share and experience the many blessings and favours received from this devotion. We would like to thank Father Joseph for his continued support and guidance.

How often we meet

Monthly: First Sunday of Every Month at 3:00pm (Hour of Great Mercy) Divine Mercy Novena (Days 1 - 9), readings and reflections from the Diary of Sr. Faustina, Litany to the Divine Mercy and Benediction

Easter: Good Friday to the *Feast of Mercy* (Divine Mercy Sunday) 9-Day Novena

Adrian D'Cruz
Divine Mercy Co-ordinator

January 2021

Scroll down for Divine Mercy Sunday Fellowship, 6 December 2020 - Photos



DIVINE MERCY FELLOWSHIP - SUNDAY 6 DECEMBER