

Divine Mercy Pray-ers

We are looking to start a new apostolate at St. Francis Xavier! When we think about the Feast of Divine Mercy we are reminded of our deep trust in Jesus. If you were to look back in history, you would see people refer to “a time such as this.” This could have referred to war, holocaust or terrorism. Well, we now find ourselves in “a time such as this.” Although what we are experiencing is the same, it is multi-faceted.

For some, the imposed isolation means that they can no longer see family. For others, this same isolation means that families are back together again, under one roof, to ride out the storm. Some may be out of a job while others have increased their work load. You can hear similar stories on the news every night but there is one thing you will not hear.

The news is not going to tell you where to turn for your ultimate help at this time; help for the loneliness, the fear and the uncertainty. We need to turn to Jesus at “a time such as this.” We need to let Jesus know that we do trust in him. If you were to look at the bottom of the image of the Divine Mercy you would see the words, “Jesus, I trust in you.”

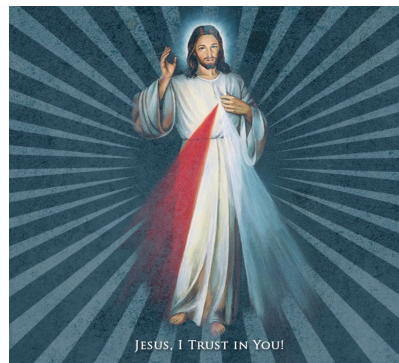
Think of it as the bottom line. Whatever happens, Jesus I trust in you.

We are looking for people to pray that prayer, and more, on behalf of all the parishioners at SFX. During a forest fire a trench is dug to stop the flames from reaching a neighborhood, as a gap is created between the homes and the fire. All the people in that neighborhood are being protected from the fire because the flames will stop at the edge of the trench. Well, think of it as you are standing in the gap for the people of St. Francis Xavier by offering your prayers for them. By your prayers you are offering them protection, security and hope.

We are looking for people who will commit to one day of the week when they will offer prayers at 3:00, the Divine Mercy hour. In St. Faustina's diary she records, “At three o'clock, 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. I will allow you to enter into My mortal sorrow. In this hour, I will refuse nothing to the soul that makes a request of me in virtue of My Passion...” (1320)

And by going one step further, we would like to daily have at least one person make the Stations of the Cross at that hour. St Faustina records, “My daughter, try your best to make the Stations of the Cross in this hour, provided that your duties permit it; and if you are not able to make the Station of the Cross, then at least step into the chapel for a moment and adore, in the Blessed Sacrament, My heart, which is full of mercy...” (1572)



This idea has not come from selfish desires but to bring consolation to the heart of Jesus. In Michael Gaitley's book, *Consoling the Heart of Jesus*, he explains the importance of Divine Mercy. At the three o'clock hour, Jesus is in agony for not only his death but also because of lost souls. He loves each and every person but it is the emotional agony that his love is not being returned that combines with his physical agony. We can relieve

Jesus' pain and suffering by going to him and loving him. The best way to love him is to declare our trust in him. And what better time than now!

We would like to have people pick a day and pick a prayer to commit to praying at the hour of mercy. It would be great to have the following prayers covered: Stations of the Cross, Chaplet of Divine Mercy, Three O'Clock Prayer to the Divine Mercy, and Act of Consecration of the Family of the Divine Mercy. Could you agree to pray one of those prayers at least once a week? All you need to do is pick a day and pick a prayer.

The only thing needed to join is a desire to love Jesus! Please feel free to contact me by email at lovepeaceprayers@yahoo.com

Wishing you love, peace and prayers,
Carol Eccleston

