

April 17, 2020



My Dear People of St. Ann Parish,

Happy Easter! Easter, like Christmas, is such an important day that the Church celebrates Easter Day for 8 days. So, since it is still Easter Day, once again, Happy Easter!

Fr. Greg, Seminarian Kevin and I are all well and are continuing our prayers for you each day. We ask God daily to keep all of you and those closest to you safe and healthy. The previous two sentences have been the same in each EFWF. I am grateful that there has been no need to change them.

It was a special privilege to have Bishop Crosby join us for Mass this past Tuesday and confer the Ministry of Candidacy on Seminarian Kevin. It is hard to believe, but this November, Bishop Crosby will have been the Bishop of Hamilton for 10 years. We wish him many more years of dedicated and faithful service to God and the people of Hamilton Diocese. We offer congratulations to Seminarian Kevin on receiving the Ministry of Candidacy. Let's all pray that he will continue to open himself to the Lord's Will in his life and serve as a faithful Priest of this Diocese for many years to come.

I know that sometimes we have been having trouble with the sound on our YouTube broadcasts. We are working on it. We are in the process of purchasing some equipment that will help us to make our broadcasts better and enable us to connect our parish sound system to the taping unit, so that everyone will be heard properly. Thanks to Kevin Dunn, our video man, for his efforts to search out the best options for us and for making the effort to come each day to broadcast our daily Mass. Kevin may God bless you for your efforts to help bring our Lord to His people. The equipment we are looking into will also be used, after this pandemic is over, to bring the video feed into our hall.

Many thanks to our decorating committee, you did an amazing job on the church. Your artistic flare helped to provide a beautiful space for us to celebrate the Easter Mysteries. We wish to thank Terra Greenhouses. We had originally cancelled our Easter flower order, since our Masses would only be livestreamed. However, they made a mistake and delivered the flowers anyway. They acknowledged their error and generously donated the flowers to St. Ann Parish. We were able to share a number of flowers with some of our local nursing homes due to Terra's kindness.

If you tuned into our Easter Sunday Mass you would have heard our Music Director, Philip Sarabura, playing the organ. With the moving of the organ and the organ speakers, it has given the organ a whole new sound. Well done Philip, and thanks for all your efforts over the Easter weekend to assure our Liturgies were filled with beautiful and appropriate music.

As we continue through these days of isolation, social distancing and the great season of Easter, let us continue to place ourselves in the loving and merciful hands of God, trusting in His total care for us. Praying that all of you will have a blessed and holy Easter season. Stay safe and stay healthy. St. Ann, pray for us!

God bless,

Fr. Lobsinger, V.E., P.P.





Monday, April 20

7:30a.m. Intentions of Mary Ellis

Tuesday, April 21

St. Anselm

7:30a.m. † Bobby Mulhearn † Manuel Luis Arruda
† Rita Fleischman Intentions of Charles Poelmann

*St. Ann,
Pray for them.*

Wednesday, April 22

7:30a.m. † Rosa Trevisan

6:00 – 7:00p.m. Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction live-streamed

Thursday, April 23

St. George, St. Adalbert

7:30a.m. † Donald Wrobel

Friday, April 24

St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen

7:30 a.m. For an end to the COVID 19 Pandemic

Saturday, April 25

St. Mark - Not video taped or live-streamed

11:00 a.m. † Veronica Ann Piccoli † Wilma MacIsaac † Luisa Medeiros

Sunday, April 26

8:00 a.m. Missa pro Populo – Mass for the People

All Catholics are dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass until further notice.



**The Parish Office is closed until further notice.
Please call the parish number if you require assistance.**

905-648-6874

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament via the Internet

Fr. Greg will offer a Eucharistic Holy Hour each Wednesday evening from 6:00 -7:00 p.m. live-streamed on our YouTube and Facebook page. It is a wonderful opportunity to spend some time with our Eucharistic Lord, to receive His blessings and to pray for healing for our world. Tune in for this wonderful hour of prayer.



St. Ann Parish YouTube Channel

St. Ann Parish has a YouTube Channel. Here you will find a video of the Daily (Monday – Friday) and Sunday Masses from St. Ann Church. You can also access the Mass from our Facebook page. The Mass is now live-streamed, so you can watch as it is happening. Please see above for this week’s schedule. It is amazing, but **hundreds of people every day are watching Mass from St. Ann Church.** This Ministry is helping not only St. Ann parishioners, but is being watched by many others. Our Good Friday Liturgy has had over 1,700 views. Donations to help cover the cost of this endeavor are greatly appreciated. Please call the Parish Office to enquire as to how to help or go to Canadahelps.ca and search for St. Ann Parish, Ancaster. The link to watch the Mass is:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCiR7MKdwrp8gQcPm7EaCb0Q/featured>



Staying Connected by Phone



Since we are not able to connect physically at Mass, I have asked Seminarian Kevin, our Parish Advisory Committee and our Parish Finance Council to reach out to our Parishioners by phone; just to say hi, Happy Easter and make sure you are all still doing fine. I hope you will look forward to their call and will enjoy the chat. I know Seminarian Kevin will enjoy the chance to talk to someone other than Fr. Greg and myself. 😊 I understand the calls have begun this past week. Thanks to our volunteers for their time and effort.



Weekly Donation to St. Ann Parish

Thank you for your continued generosity to St. Ann Parish. I have been so very moved by how many of you are continuing your donation to St. Ann Parish, even in these difficult and uncertain times. Many times, each day, the



mail slot on the front door opens and an envelope falls through. Your care and love for St. Ann Parish is visible in your generous giving. May God reward all of you for that love and care for your parish community. Currently there are four methods to make your donation to St. Ann Parish:

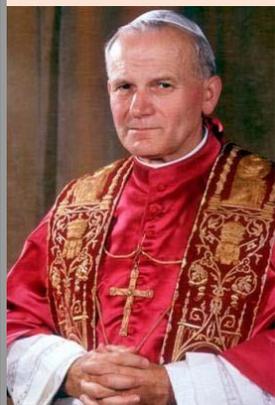
- ✚ Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) is a great way to provide your regular offering to our Parish. To register for EFT, call the Parish Office and we will email you the necessary forms.
- ✚ Drop off your weekly envelope by putting it through the mail slot in the Parish Office door.
- ✚ Post-dated cheques. Instead of coming every week, put several post-dated cheques into the same envelope.
- ✚ Online donation: hamiltondiocese.com/covid19parishfund/ works like “Canada Helps” but is through our Diocese and does not take a commission. You can make a one-time donation or schedule a regular donation.

Act of Spiritual Communion

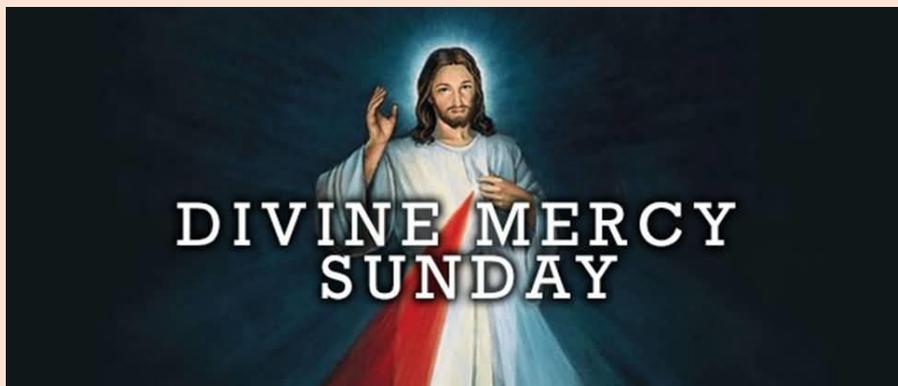


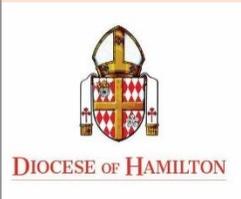
When we are unable to receive Jesus in Holy Communion but experience a desire to have him come close to us, we can make an Act of Spiritual Communion. If you follow our daily Masses online, Seminarian Kevin reads an Act of Spiritual Communion for us, but some have asked for the words, so here they are:

“My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things and I desire You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace You and unite myself wholly to You, as though You were already there; do not permit me to be ever separated from You. Amen.”



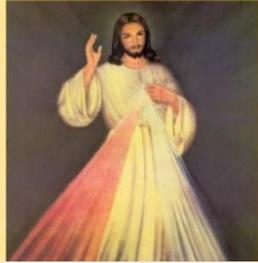
St. John Paul, II
*Promoter of the
Divine Mercy
Devotion*





CLERGY TRANSFERS

Bishop Crosby released the annual moves for the Priests last Thursday. You can find the entire list on the Diocesan website. There will be a change in clergy at St. Ann Parish again this year. Fr. Greg has been assigned as the Associate Pastor of St. Joseph Parish, Guelph and Fr. Naveed Arif, OP, has been assigned as the new Associate Pastor of St. Ann. The moves will take place on Wednesday, July 15th. We thank Fr. Greg for sharing his Priestly ministry with us here at St. Ann for this past year and we wish him many blessings and graces as he moves on to bring his gifts, talents and ministry to the people of St. Joseph Parish. A proper farewell and thank you will be arranged once such gatherings are allowed.



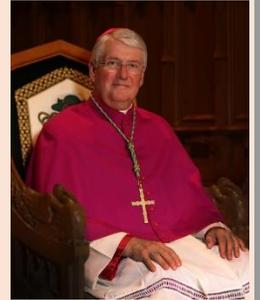
*Come Celebrate
Divine Mercy
Sunday*

DIVINE MERCY LITURGY

This Sunday afternoon, April 19th, at 2:30 p.m., Fr. Greg will lead us in an hour of prayer to the Divine Mercy. Please join us on YouTube or Facebook for this time of prayer, pleading for God's mercy upon each of us and upon the whole world.

Bishop Crosby's Easter Message

Below is Bishop Crosby's Easter message, you should have received a copy in the mail. We are most grateful to his Excellency for his guidance through these difficult days and for his constant Apostolic Ministry as the Chief Shepherd of the Diocese of Hamilton. His Easter letter can also be found on the Diocesan website. <https://hamiltondiocese.com/>



Easter 2020

Year	Date	Day of the week
Easter 2015	April 5, 2015	Sunday
Easter 2016	March 27, 2016	Sunday
Easter 2017	April 16, 2017	Sunday
Easter 2018	April 1, 2018	Sunday
Easter 2019	April 21, 2019	Sunday
Easter 2020	April 12, 2020	Sunday
Easter 2021	April 4, 2021	Sunday
Easter 2022	April 17, 2022	Sunday
Easter 2023	April 9, 2023	Sunday
Easter 2024	March 31, 2024	Sunday
Easter 2025	April 20, 2025	Sunday

Determining the Date of Easter

Have you ever wondered why the date of Easter changes each year? Unlike Christmas, which can be on any day of the week thus allowing for the fixed date of December 25, the early Christian Church decided that Easter must always be on a Sunday, so it is impossible for it to be the same calendar date each year. The Council of Nicea in 325 AD placed Easter on the first Sunday following the first full moon after March 20 (i.e. the beginning of Spring). Easter may be as early as March 22 and as late as April 25. The next time Easter will fall on March 22 is in the year 2285 and the next time Easter will fall on April 25 is the year 2038. On whatever

date Easter happens to fall, it is the most important day of the year, for it celebrates the day Jesus conquered sin and death and won for us eternal salvation.

Our church bells ring each day at 9:00 a.m., Noon and 3:00 p.m.



Thank you. Merci.

in honour of our Healthcare Workers and First Responders.



Please remember to pray for all our Healthcare Workers and First Responders, may our Blessed Lord and Dear Lady keep them safe.



Image of Jesus the Divine Physician

May Jesus, our Divine Physician, hold all of us tightly in His Loving Arms and bring healing and comfort to all peoples and lands. Amen.

Pope Francis' Prayer to Our Lady, Health of the Sick

O Mary, you shine continuously on our journey as a sign of salvation and hope.

We entrust ourselves to you, Health of the Sick.

At the foot of the Cross you participated in Jesus' pain, with steadfast faith.

You, Salvation of the Roman People, know what we need.

We are certain that you will provide, so that, as you did at Cana of Galilee,

joy and feasting might return after this moment of trial.

Help us, Mother of Divine Love,

to conform ourselves to the Father's will

and to do what Jesus tells us:

He who took our sufferings upon Himself, and bore our sorrows to bring us, through the Cross, to the joy of the Resurrection. Amen.

We seek refuge under your protection, O Holy Mother of God.

Do not despise our pleas – we who are put to the test – and deliver us from every danger, O glorious and Blessed Virgin.



YOUNG CATHOLIC ADULTS BI-WEEKLY ZOOM MEETING

During the COVID-19 pandemic, our parish Young Adults group has a night every two weeks, where young adults can check-in with each other, hang out, and listen to a talk by Fr. Greg on a particular topic. There are always opportunities for questions during and after the talk. The next Young Adults Zoom night takes place on Friday, April 24th at 7:00 p.m., the topic is VIRTUE and VICE. If you have any questions, please feel welcome to e-mail Father Greg at: gmerkley@hamiltondiocese.com.



YOUTH GROUP ZOOM MEETING

We currently plan to begin ongoing Zoom gatherings for our parish youth group, where youth will be able to catch up with each other, play fun games together online, and receive a short talk on some element of our faith, along with opportunities to ask questions. Further details will be sent out to those on our youth group e-mail list. If you are interested in receiving more information, please contact our Ablaze Youth Group by emailing: ablaze.youthgroup@outlook.com.



St. Maria Faustina Kowalska
Receiver of the Divine Mercy revelations



WORK IN THE CHURCH through the ONE HEART ONE SOUL CAMPAIGN

We are hopeful once again, that the work in the church will be able to continue. On Monday, April 20th, the painting of the church will commence. One of our own parishioners has come forward and has

generously gifted his company to repair and paint the interior of our church. Hopefully, work on the sound system will begin again as well. **We are still looking for parishioners who have a contact with or who are in the carpet and tile trade.** If we, as parishioners of St. Ann, can step up and offer to help, we can continue to have a beautiful and dignified church in which to worship our Lord and our God. If you can offer some assistance with a carpet/tile connection, please call the parish office, 905-648-6874. All contacts will be presented to the Parish Finance Council for further investigation. To quote Bishop Crosby, let's "lean in" and offer back to God the gifts and talents He has given to us.

Bishop Crosby's 2020 Easter Message

***"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen."* (Luke 24:5)**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Greetings in the name of the Risen Lord Jesus! This Easter message arrives amidst the seemingly unending news cycle we have all experienced over the past weeks. At times, despite the positive stories we hear, this news has been harrowing and frightening. However, I write to you today to implore you, most especially in this Easter Season: **Do not allow this bad news to obscure your vision of the Good News of Christ!** We cannot allow the darkness of the present moment to cast a shadow on our vision of the light of Christ's Resurrection! Indeed, the Resurrection is what transforms the darkness of Good Friday, the suffering of the innocent Christ, and the desolation of the Cross. As followers of Jesus we know there is no Easter without the Cross. And yet the Cross always points toward the glory of the Resurrection and God's ultimate victory over death. Our suffering can point toward salvation as well, if we unite it to the One who suffered all for us.

We may sense a contradiction to the Easter feast this year: how can our celebration and joy be complete when the world is locked-down, isolated, quarantined – when we cannot even gather in our parish churches to celebrate the Solemnity of solemnities? What do we make of this suffering that remains even after the tomb has been found empty and the Risen Lord appeared?

The Easter story provides the definitive example of how God gives meaning to suffering. Through the Lord's suffering and death, we are liberated from death's grasp. The Lord will also transform the difficulties of today into profound grace – but we must allow Him to do so. We must open ourselves to the Lord's voice and allow ourselves to be instruments of His love when it is so desperately needed.

How can we do this? The foundational way is prayer. The rhythm of our prayer life has been upended in these days, most painfully through the absence of the faithful at Sunday Mass. But our prayer must

continue. I encourage you to read the daily scripture readings, to pray the Rosary and other devotions, to watch the Mass being broadcast on television or the internet, making an act of spiritual communion. Pray for your families, for your parish, for healthcare workers, for our political leaders, for those who are sick, and for those who are dying. We must also remember not only to focus on our trials, but to be thankful for our continued blessings. *“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”* (Thess. 5: 16-18)

We also open ourselves to the Lord when we do good. While we will not be able to make all things well, we can follow the example of St. Teresa of Calcutta to, *“do small things with great love.”* Grow closer to your family and loved ones, being gentle and patient with them during this time together. Call on family, friends, neighbours, and the vulnerable. Help those in need as you are able. Make sacrifices to promote the common good and ensure others have what they need. Remember: *“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”* (Matthew 25:40)

Our parishes and pastors will continue to be here for you during this time. Our priests continue to celebrate Mass for your intentions and, like me, they anxiously await your return to worship at the table of the Lord. Sadly, our parishes are sharing in the damage of the measures to contain the virus. If you are able, continuing to support your parish financially will help them overcome this ordeal. Financial uncertainties abound, and we must ensure we take care of our families; not everyone will be able to maintain their giving. However, our parishes are vitally important, and the support of the faithful is what sustains them. I know Divine Providence directs us at this time and always, and I know those who can, will do their part.

The Easter story solidifies the triumph of light over darkness, the victory of life over death, and the culmination of God’s breaking into history to bring each of us to Himself. We know that the suffering of this present moment cannot separate us from God’s love. *“For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”* (Romans 8: 38-39) While we may be separated from one another, Christ remains close to us. I pray for health, well-being, and peace for you and your family, and wish you an abundance of Easter blessings. May the Easter Alleluia resound in your heart, until such time as it rings out once again from the gathered assembly in the house of God!

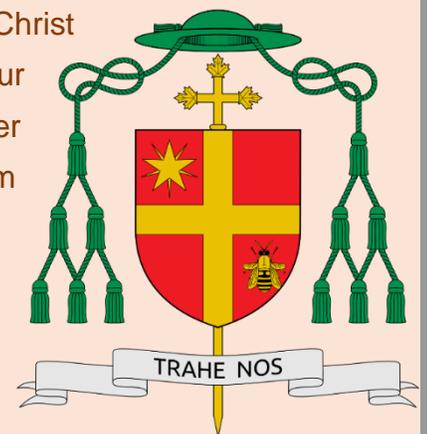
Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,

+ *Douglas, OMI*

(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI

Bishop of Hamilton

Solemnity of Easter 2020



How to pray The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

1. Make the Sign of the Cross

2. (Optional*) Pray,

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.

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

3. "Our Father,"

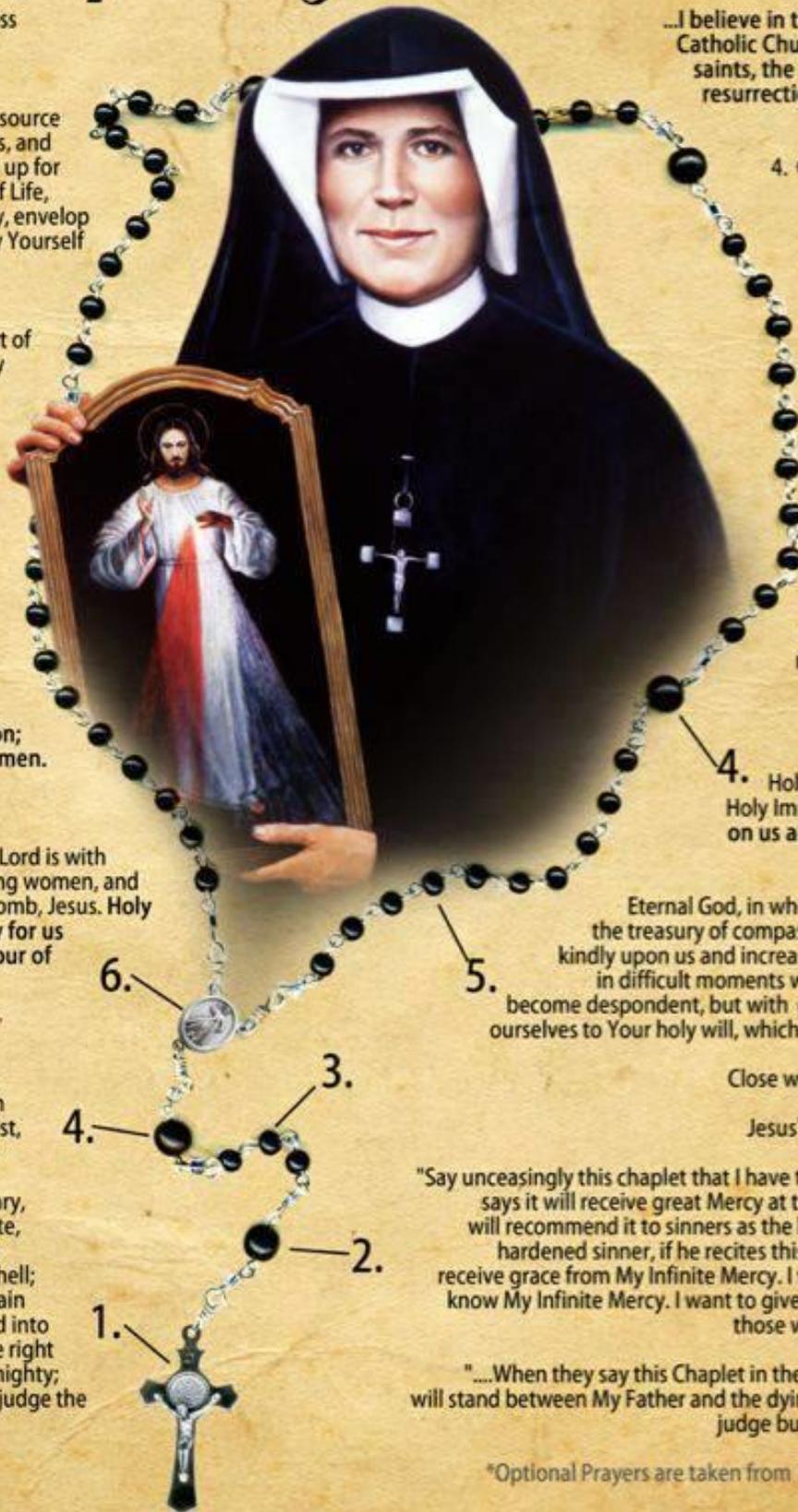
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. Amen.

"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.

"And The Apostle's 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 God the Father almighty; from there He will come 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.

4. On the Our Father beads pray,

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.

5. On the Hail Mary Beads pray,

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

6. Pray three times,

4. Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.

(Optional*)

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.

Close with the Sign of the Cross.

Jesus' promise to St. Faustina

"Say unceasingly this chaplet that I have taught you. Anyone who says it will receive great Mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as the last hope. Even the most hardened sinner, if he recites this Chaplet even once, will receive grace from My Infinite Mercy. I want the whole world to know My Infinite Mercy. I want to give unimaginable graces to those who trust in My Mercy...."

"....When they say this Chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person not as the just judge but as the Merciful Savior".

*Optional Prayers are taken from *The Diary of St. Faustina*.