

Appendix 7.

Sample of Divine Mercy Sunday Prayer Service with or without Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Introductory Rites

Leader:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People:

Amen.

[When a Priest or Deacon is the leader, you may include...

Leader:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People:

And also with you.]

Leader:

Dear friends in Christ,
The Lord is full of mercy and compassion.
As we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday,
We rejoice in the Lord's outpouring of forgiveness and healing.
Through our baptism, we share in the death of Christ and were buried with Him.
May we also come to share in His Resurrection.

Leader:

Let us pray

A pause for silent prayer

God of Infinite Mercy, you chose your humble servant St. Faustina to be the Apostle of Divine Mercy in our time.

Through her intercession may we come to trust in you and your unfathomable mercy more fully.

We place before You today our needs, the needs of our families, our parish, and of the whole world, and we ask you to look kindly upon them.

Help us grow ever stronger in our faith that we might put into practice works of mercy in our daily lives.

We make this prayer, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

Reader:

A reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus: (Titus 3:3-8)

Brothers and sisters, we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient deluded, slaves to various desires and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful ourselves and hating one another.

But when the kindness and generous love of God our savior appeared, not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of his mercy, he saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the holy Spirit, whom he richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our savior, so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

This saying is trustworthy. I want you to insist on these points, that those who have believed in God be careful to devote themselves to good works; these are excellent beneficial to others.

Reader:

The Word of the Lord.

People:

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 118

Antiphon:

“For His mercy endures forever.”

[If a priest or deacon is leading the service, introduce the Gospel with “The Lord be with you.”]

John 20:19-31

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

On the evening of that first day of the week,
when the doors were locked, where the disciples were,
for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst
and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

When he had said this, he showed them
his hands and his side.

The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you.

As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”

And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said
to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them
and whose sins you retain are retained.”

Thomas, called Didymus, one of the Twelve,
was not with them when Jesus came.

So the other disciples said to him,

“We have seen the Lord.”

But he said to them,

“Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands
and put my finger into the nailmarks

and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.”
Now a week later his disciples were again inside
and Thomas was with them.
Jesus came, although the doors were locked,
and stood in their midst and said, “Peace be with you.”
Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands,
and bring your hand and put it into my side,
and do not be unbelieving, but believe.”
Thomas answered and said to him, “My Lord and my God!”
Jesus said to him, “Have you come to believe
because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen and have believed.”
Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his
disciples that are not written in this book.
But these are written that you may come to believe
that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,
and that through this belief you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.

[Another option in place of the Gospel is readings from *St. Faustina's Diary*.]

Reader:

An excerpt from the *Diary* of St. Faustina: (*Diary*, 699)

“On one occasion, I heard Jesus say these words to me:

‘My daughter, tell the whole world about My inconceivable mercy.
I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and a shelter for all souls,
and especially for poor sinners.

On that day, the very depths of My tender mercy are open.
I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the Font of My mercy.

The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete
forgiveness of sins and punishment.

On that day, all the divine floodgates, through which graces flow, are open.

Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet.

My mercy is so great that no mind, be it human or angelic,
will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity.

Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy.

Every soul in its relation to Me will contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity.”

Homily

[An appropriate selection of passages from *St. Faustina's Diary* could be read. Another option would be a short teaching like the following:

The ABC's of Mercy

Ask for His mercy – God wants us to approach him in prayer, repenting of our sins and asking him to pour his mercy upon us and upon the whole world.

Be merciful to others – God wants us to receive His mercy and extend mercy (love and forgiveness) to others just as he does to us.

Complete trust in Jesus – God wants us to know that the graces of his mercy are dependent upon our trust in Him. The more we trust in Jesus, the more we will receive.]

The Rite of Exposition

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Litany in Praise of The Divine Mercy

Leader:

Our response will be: I trust in You

Divine Mercy, gushing forth from the bosom of the Father*,
Divine Mercy, greatest attribute of God,
Divine Mercy, incomprehensible mystery, of the Most Blessed Trinity,
Divine Mercy, unfathomed by any intellect, human or angelic,
Divine Mercy, from which wells forth all life and happiness,
Divine Mercy, better than the heavens,
Divine Mercy, source of miracles and wonders,
Divine Mercy, encompassing the whole universe,
Divine Mercy, descending to earth in the Person of the Incarnate Word,
Divine Mercy, which flowed out from the open wound of the Heart of Jesus,
Divine Mercy, enclosed in the Heart of Jesus for us, and especially for sinners,
Divine Mercy, unfathomed in the institution of the Sacred Host,
Divine Mercy, in the founding of Holy Church,
Divine Mercy, in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism,
Divine Mercy, in our justification through Jesus Christ,
Divine Mercy, accompanying us through Jesus Christ,
Divine Mercy, embracing us especially at the hour of death,
Divine Mercy, endowing us with immortal life,
Divine Mercy, accompanying us every moment of our life,
Divine Mercy, shielding us from the fire of hell,
Divine Mercy, in the conversion of hardened sinners,
Divine Mercy, astonishment of Angels, incomprehensible to Saints,
Divine Mercy, unfathomed in all the mysteries of God,
Divine Mercy, lifting us of every misery,
Divine Mercy, source of our happiness and joy,
Divine Mercy, in calling us forth from nothingness to existence,
Divine Mercy, embracing all the works of His hands,
Divine Mercy, crown of all of God's handiwork,
Divine Mercy, in which we are all immersed,
Divine Mercy, sweet relief for anguished hearts,

Divine Mercy, only hope of despairing souls,
Divine Mercy, repose of hearts, peace amidst fear,
Divine Mercy, delight and ecstasy of holy souls,
Divine Mercy, inspiring hope against all hope.

(Diary, 949)

Prayer of Entrustment of the World to Divine Mercy

Leader:

Together, let us recite the Prayer of Entrustment of the World to Divine Mercy:

God, merciful Father, in Your Son, Jesus Christ, You have revealed Your love and poured it out upon us in the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. We entrust to You today the destiny of the world and of every man and woman.

Bend down to us sinners, heal our weakness, conquer all evil, and grant that all the peoples of the earth may experience Your mercy. In You, the Triune God, may they ever find the source of hope. Eternal Father, by the Passion and Resurrection of Your Son, have mercy on us and upon the world! Amen.

Pope John Paul, II
Homily at the Dedication of the Divine Mercy Shrine in Lagiewniki, Poland
August 17, 2002

Veneration of The Divine Mercy Image

If there is no Exposition, a prayer can be offered.

O Eternal Love, You command Your Sacred Image to be painted
And reveal to us the inconceivable fount of mercy,
You bless whoever approaches Your rays,
And a soul all black will turn into snow.

O sweet Jesus, it is here You established the throne of Your mercy
To bring joy and hope to sinful man.
From Your open Heart, as from a pure fount,
Flows comfort to a repentant heart and soul.

May praise and glory for this Image
Never cease to stream from man's soul.
May praise of God's mercy pour from every heart,
Now, and at every hour, and forever and ever.

(Diary, 1)

[With Exposition, the image is displayed and honored, but no public prayer is offered.]

Benediction

Exposition and Benediction should follow the guidelines contained in the Church's document on *Holy Communion and Worship of the Eucharist outside of Mass*.