

## FROM FR. JASON



Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Christ is Risen! It is easy to think the resurrection belongs to the past. But He is risen TODAY and is present in the sacraments. May we all have an encounter with Him this Easter. We are now in 50 days of feasting after 40 days of fasting. One of the first appearances after His Resurrection was to the disciples who left Him, abandoned Him. Yet in His mercy, He is not waiting for them to return but He is looking for them. Today, we celebrate Divine Mercy Sunday. Below is an excerpt from the Diary of St. Faustina Kowalska, the secretary of Christ's Divine Mercy who He appeared to and conversed with throughout her life. If you don't have a copy of the [Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska - Divine Mercy in My Soul](#), get one and read it!

Conversation of the Merciful God with a Sinful Soul.

**Jesus: Be not afraid of your Savior, O sinful soul. I make the first move to come to you, for I know that by yourself you are unable to lift yourself to me. Child, do not run away from your Father; be willing to talk openly with your God of mercy who wants to speak words of pardon and lavish his graces on you. How dear your soul is to Me! I have inscribed your name upon My hand; you are engraved as a deep wound in My Heart.**

Soul: Lord, I hear your voice calling me to turn back from the path of sin, but I have neither the strength nor the courage to do so.

**Jesus: I am your strength; I will help you in the struggle.**

Soul: Lord, I recognize your holiness, and I fear You.

**Jesus: My child, do you fear the God of mercy? My holiness does not prevent Me from being merciful. Behold, for you I have established a throne of mercy on earth-the tabernacle-and from this throne I desire to enter into your heart. I am not surrounded by a retinue or guards. You can come to me at any moment, at any time; I want to speak to you and desire to grant you grace.**

Soul: Lord, I doubt that You will pardon my numerous sins; my misery fills me with fright.

**Jesus: My mercy is greater than your sins and those of the entire world. Who can measure the extent of my goodness? For you I descended from heaven to earth; for you I allowed myself to be nailed to the cross; for you I let my Sacred Heart be pierced with a lance, thus opening wide the source of mercy for you. Come, then, with trust to draw graces from this fountain. I never reject a contrite heart. Your misery has disappeared in the depths of My mercy. Do not argue with Me about your wretchedness. You will give me pleasure if you hand over to me all your troubles and griefs. I shall heap upon you the treasures of My grace.**

Soul: You have conquered, O Lord, my stony heart with Your goodness. In trust and humility, I approach the tribunal of Your mercy, where You yourself absolve me by the hand of your representative. O Lord, I feel Your grace and Your peace filling my poor soul. I feel overwhelmed by Your mercy, O Lord. You forgive me, which is more than I dared to hope for or could imagine. Your goodness surpasses all my desires. And now, filled with gratitude for so many graces, I invite You to my heart. I wandered, like a prodigal child gone astray; but you did not cease to be my Father. Increase Your mercy toward me, for You see how weak I am.

**Jesus: Child, speak no more of your misery; it is already forgotten. Listen, my child, to what I desire to tell you. Come close to My wounds and draw from the Fountain of Life whatever your heart desires. Drink copiously from the Fountain of Life and you will not weary on your journey. Look at the splendors of My mercy and do not fear the enemies of your salvation. Glorify My mercy.**

Peace,