

## Pastor's Column

April 27, 2014

### Divine Mercy and Popes to Saints

May you be in the presence of the risen Lord.

In an ideal Church I would be able to get a pastor's column into the bulletin every week but we don't live in that Church. I really wanted to get one of these out for Easter in particular to catch some people who rarely come to Mass. But alas, we will settle for one for this weekend.

This Sunday the Church celebrates Divine Mercy, the Church's newest Feast day on Sunday. As many of you already know, this feast originates with St. Faustina Kowalska and the revelations that she had of Jesus in the 1930's. Jesus appeared to her multiple times over a period of years. From this came the famous image of Christ dressed in a white robe pointing to his heart while rays of blue and red come out of his heart; at the bottom of the image are the words: "Jesus, I trust in you." Our Lord asked that the image become venerated throughout the world and promised great graces to anyone who would venerate it. St. Faustina reported that Jesus had said to her: "If they will not adore My mercy, they will perish for all eternity . . . Secretary of My mercy, write, tell souls about this great mercy of Mine, because that awful day, the day of My justice, is near . . . Souls who spread the honour of My mercy I shield through their entire life . . . Tell my priests that hardened sinners will crumble beneath their words when they speak about My unfathomable mercy, about the compassion I have for them in My Heart. To priests who will proclaim and extol My mercy I will give wonderful power, and I will anoint their words and I will touch the hearts of those to which they will speak." A chaplet invoking God for His mercy was created using the beads of the rosary called: The Divine Mercy Chaplet. This chaplet will be prayed at Queen of Angels church this Sunday after the Mass in the extra-ordinary form (3pm-ish) Information about all of this has been in the bulletin for weeks now. I encourage you to learn and pray this powerful prayer for the conversion and salvation of sinners.

In addition to the things just mentioned, this Sunday will also be the canonization of Popes John Paul II and John XXIII. This is an extremely rare event, perhaps in the whole of the Church's 2,000 year history no two popes have been declared saints simultaneously. Just canonizing (the process of declaring one a saint) a pope is rare enough. Of the church's 266 popes only 80 are canonized saints, most of those happening early in the Church's history. Only three popes have been canonized in the last 700 years and on this Sunday we'll add two more to that list; we live in interesting times. So this Sunday, be sure to pray to Pope Saints John Paul II and John XXIII for their intercession in your life and the life of the Church, and to thank God for these great witnesses to the faith.

Yours in Christ,



Fr. Thomas Nathe