



Servants of Divine Mercy News

July, 2009

www.servantsofdivinemeracy.org

209 S. Moss Dr., Houma, LA 70360 985/217-6726

The Secret to Happiness

Is it money? Success? A great job? Finding the love of your life? All of those things aren't necessarily bad, but in the end, none of them can satisfy the longing of the human heart for meaning and peace. You may have guessed it by now—the secret to happiness is living in forgiveness, in Divine Mercy Itself.

Once a soul tastes the thirst-quenching fountain of forgiveness, it returns to it confidently again and again to drink deeply of the inexhaustible well of Divine Mercy. A soul cannot keep this treasure of the Lord's Mercy to himself; he freely shares it with all. Thus is Divine Mercy linked to spreading the Good News that Jesus is Lord.

How do I forgive? Simply put, forgiveness is a decision. Decide a thousand times in favor of mercy and forgiveness. If one suffers a big hurt, then it may take some time and many decisions to forgive, but it will happen.

If your seed is thistles, then thorns will be the harvest. If it is the good seed of mercy, then the harvest will be souls won for the Kingdom of God. The secret to happiness is to extend forgiveness and mercy to all who have hurt you, to all who need His Mercy.

The Chaplet of Divine Mercy

One of the most precious gifts Our Lord gave to St. Faustina was the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. For instructions on how to pray the chaplet, check out our website:

www.servantofdivinemeracy.org

The Chaplet is powerful means of intercession, calling our Merciful Father to have mercy on us and on the whole world. Pray it during the Hour of Mercy, 3:00 PM. Pray it with the dying, with great confidence that Our Lord will show His Mercy to those who are leaving this world. Pray the Chaplet for your loved ones who have left the Church. Trust in the Mercy of the Lord to melt their hearts and draw them to Himself and His Bride, the Body of Christ.

If you've had prayers answered by intercession with the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, let us know and we'll give God all the glory with you!

A Bit of St. Faustina's Diary

"Today I heard a voice in my soul: oh, if sinners knew My mercy, they would not perish in such great numbers. Tell sinful souls not to be afraid to approach Me; speak to them of My great mercy. The Lord said to me, The loss of each soul plunges Me into mortal sadness. You always console Me when you pray for sinners. The prayer most pleasing to Me is prayer for the conversion of sinners. Know, My daughter, that this prayer is always heard and answered."

From *Divine Mercy in My Soul*, Notebook V

Jesus, I trust in You!

Please Help Us Send This Newsletter to a Friend!

We do not share our mailing list with anyone, so don't worry that we'll fill your(or your friend's) mailbox with unwanted junk mail. Please complete the form below and mail to: Servants of Divine Mercy, 209 S. Moss Dr., Houma, LA 70360.

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(Please Print) Name _____
Address _____
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Fifth in Series:

The Charism of the Servants of Divine Mercy—*Obedient*

What parent has not sent a child to Confession with the admonition, “Don’t forget to tell Father how you’ve broken the Fourth Commandment.” Unfortunately, disobedience and disrespect are not limited to childhood. Servants of Divine Mercy know that obedience means “to listen intently.” We try to foster the sort of obedience that is not slavish or overbearing, but a joy. The fruit of true obedience is freedom. St. Paul writes, “Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.”

Obedience can also yield much peace in community when members realize that their leaders not only have their best interests at heart, but love them deeply. So it is with Our Heavenly Father, Who demands obedience of His children. He requires obedience not to punish us, but to prepare us for the glories of eternal life with Him. His yoke is easy and His burden light.

Obedience relieves community members from trivial matters and frees them to focus on serving the Lord. Obedience protects us from Satan’s power by helping us grow in humility, united with the Church. May we all grow in the grace of obedience, choosing God’s Will over our own.

Summer Visits Continue

June has been a busy month for guests and July promises to bring more men for visits to our community. An extended visit gives both guest and community a good chance to get to know each other better. After a few weeks, one has a realistic idea of the flow of daily life within the community, and assists leaders in helping applicants discern if the Servants of Divine Mercy is for them.

Not everyone is suited for our way of life. Life in community can be challenging and even quite difficult at times. Not every man who has expressed interest in us has been comfortable with how we want to live. Happily though, God keeps calling men to join us and we are gladdened by the abundant gifts and talents each one brings to us.

Is there a single man you know who is searching for the Lord’s Will for His life? Give him this newsletter, direct him to our website: www.servantsofdivinemercy.org, or ask him to call Dr. Allan Weiler: 985/217-6726.

Steubenville on the Bayou Rocks!

Once again this year, Allan was blessed to be a part of “Steubenville on the Bayou,” a dynamic youth conference co-sponsored by Franciscan University of Steubenville and the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux. Nearly 4000 youth, chaperones, and support staff gathered for a joyous weekend of music, speakers, and praise and worship. Workshops and small group times were also offered on a number of topics such as prayer and vocations. The Adoration Chapel was always filled with teens and the long lines for the Sacrament of Reconciliation were an inspiration. So many souls were reconciled with God that weekend, thanks to the many priests who heard confessions for long hours.

Bishop Sam Jacobs was with us the entire weekend and led us in celebration of Mass and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. His presentation on growing deeper in our relationship with the Lord and committing ourselves to service was especially powerful. When Bishop invited those considering priesthood and religious life to stand and come forward for a blessing, I couldn’t help but wonder how many of those 200-300 youth would join the Servants of Divine Mercy someday. We praise God for giving us such an awesome Bishop!

In addition to serving as a prayer minister for the conference, Allan hosted 20 young men and chaperones from St. Anthony of Padua Church, our local parish. We had a lot of fun, complete with *late* night snacks and discussions of faith. Being a catechist this past year and observing the faith development of these young men (and women) have helped me grow in my relationship with Jesus. They give me much hope for the future of the Church!