

The

WHITE ROSE



ISSUE 08 April, 2010

YOUR MONTHLY SDBV
NEWSLETTER

*The Merciful Love of our Abba,
our Savior,
our Love...*



Divine
Mercy



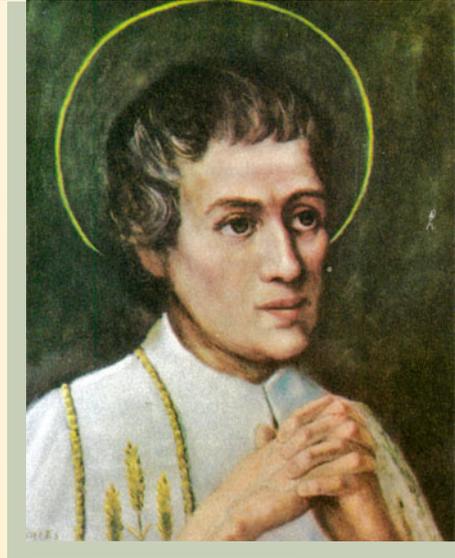
“I feel myself more than ever encouraged to believe and to hope for the fulfillment of all that I have deeply engraven upon my heart and have asked of God these many years, namely, that sooner or later the Blessed Virgin shall have more children, servants and slaves of love than ever; and that by this means, Jesus Christ, my dear Master, shall reign in hearts more than ever.”

St. Louis De Montfort

FROM the FOUNDER:

Dear Children of Mary...

St. Louis De Montfort lived in a time when pharisaism reigned in the form of Jansenism in France in the 1700's. Jansenism got its name from a bishop Jansen, who promulgated many errors which portrayed God as a very severe judge. These errors led to practices that spread throughout the church that had no basis in authentic Church teaching, yet nonetheless had permeated what was taught as Church teaching by most of the prelates and clergy up until Pope Pius X officially promulgated practices that began to reverse these erroneous doctrines that by then the vast majority of the faithful had held as true (*St. Therese L. herself was immersed in it and her Little Way is both cure & remedy*). Unfortunately, the spirit behind many of these ideas still has a stronghold in our Church today.



The essence of these errors was that God was not love and mercy, but a severe judge who was not reachable and all we could do was be severe with ourselves in hope that it would be enough to stay the wrath of God. It taught that it was not possible to know if we were in a state of grace or not. This led to the practice of severe penance and fasting, very infrequent communion and very frequent confession. It also led to a hyper-focus on good behavior and lesser focus on prayer. Prayer became about words and not union with God because that was seen as not attainable. This led to a focus on appearance of piety and devoutness instead of true piety and devoutness. Needless to say all of this led to extreme servile fear of God and a lack of spiritual virility as people just gave up on the idea they could be holy and be in a loving union with God. And of course it ends up making one treat God simply as a reward for being good, since it makes souls forget that the only way to union with Him in the next life is union with Him in this life, and there is no union without relationship. Heaven is for those who possess heaven here on earth by possessing God, for grace is the seed of glory and death is the transition from time to eternity; and if we are still in need of purification when we die we will continue it in purgatory and if we are fully united to God when we die we go straight to heaven.

St. Louis came along preaching that authentic devotion to Mary was an easy, short, perfect and secure path to attaining union with Jesus Christ. For this, as much as anything, he was persecuted. And he was persecuted by the Jansenists and the freemasons alike. He was persecuted so severely that only one bishop of all the dioceses in France ended up allowing him to do mission work in his diocese, as all the others banned him. And this was after he had received a commission from the Pope to be a Missionary Apostolic in France. He eventually was poisoned by the freemasons and the Jansenists and he died from the effects of it.

St. Louis taught us to have confidence in God and in Mary, not because of our own merits but because God is good and wants us to come to Him and be united to Him. He made us just for this purpose, and therefore He gave us the means to do so and did not want it to be hard; He just wanted us to want it too.

God Bless you and Mary keep you,
Br. Mariamartin

Divine Mercy

Divine Mercy Sunday

Our Lord gave us this feast because in His infinite love He wanted to show us in a tangible way that He is Mercy. His heart may be made of flesh physically, but spiritually it is made of Mercy.



The choice of Sr. Faustina

He chose an illiterate nun to be the apostle of Mercy. Why? Because He wanted to choose the humble to confuse the proud in the conceit of their hearts. What better way to oppose the pharisaical attitude of these times? It has always amazed me when people ask the question of someone who has received a great grace, why them?

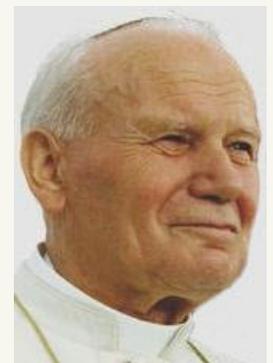
As if a person has to meet certain criteria of men in order to be the recipient of a great grace. God knows the hearts of men and He has His own criteria. He knows how every person will respond to graces received. He knows who will be perfectly faithful to what He will ask of them, and who will be humble enough to repent if they make mistakes or disobey.

The Banned List

Why were her writings put on the banned list? Again, this was due to the pharisaical attitude of prelates at the time. Salvation, to them, is supposed to be too hard. They view God as a strict and severe judge, and therefore anything that seems to show God in a different light is innovation and not sound doctrine. One of the main sticking points for them was that St. Faustina said that Jesus told her that God's greatest attribute was His Mercy. According to scripture this should not have been seen as a novelty, but it was.



Jesus said that heaven rejoices more over one repentant sinner than all those who have no need of repentance, that the good shepherd goes after the one lost sheep, leaving the 99 behind. He said that He came for sinners, that sick people need a doctor, not healthy people. He told the Pharisees, go and learn the meaning of the words, it is mercy I desire and not sacrifice. St. John the Baptist's entire mission was one of preaching repentance. Jesus instituted the sacrament of confession, taught us the true meaning of forgiveness in the prayer He taught us; the Our Father, gave us the beatitude of blessed are the merciful, and from the cross forgave His murderers. His death itself was redemption for man, reconciliation of man to the Father, paying the debt owed on behalf of men. How did anyone oppose that His greatest attribute is Mercy? Fortunately, Pope J. P. II, when he was the bishop of Krakow,



worked to prove there were no doctrinal errors in all her work and it was overturned, and when Pope, approved the feast for the liturgical calendar of the universal Church.

Perfectionism

There is something in man that tends to believe that if he needs help he is not good enough himself. But that is wrong. Jesus said, be perfect even as your heavenly Father is perfect, but He did not mean we had to make ourselves perfect, as if we had that ability. Jesus, in giving us the Our Father, gave us His own prayer to the Father. It is a prayer of dependency on the Father. He prayed at night often, when his day was filled with apostolic work. This is a life of dependency on the Father. He said, I can only do what I see My Father in heaven doing, which means all His actions are dependent on the Father. Jesus is



God and yet He is dependent on the Father, therefore we can only become perfect in a dependent relationship with God and not on our own. God made us to live and learn and grow and become who He made us to be, through a relationship with Him. It

is in this relationship that we allow Him to form us into the image of Himself He made us to be. As St Paul says, it is the Holy Spirit who both inspires and accomplishes His work in us and through us. It is the error of perfectionism, that I can become perfect through my own efforts. That leads to pharisaism--*obeying the rules makes me holy and not relative union with God.* And that leads to severity and seeing God as someone to only be afraid of, and not have confidence in His love and mercy and be trustful of His love and mercy.

Perfectionism is self reliance and not dependency on God and therefore leads to severity, self hatred, self righteousness and pharisaical judgmentalism. This is to be unmerciful instead of merciful. To lack char-

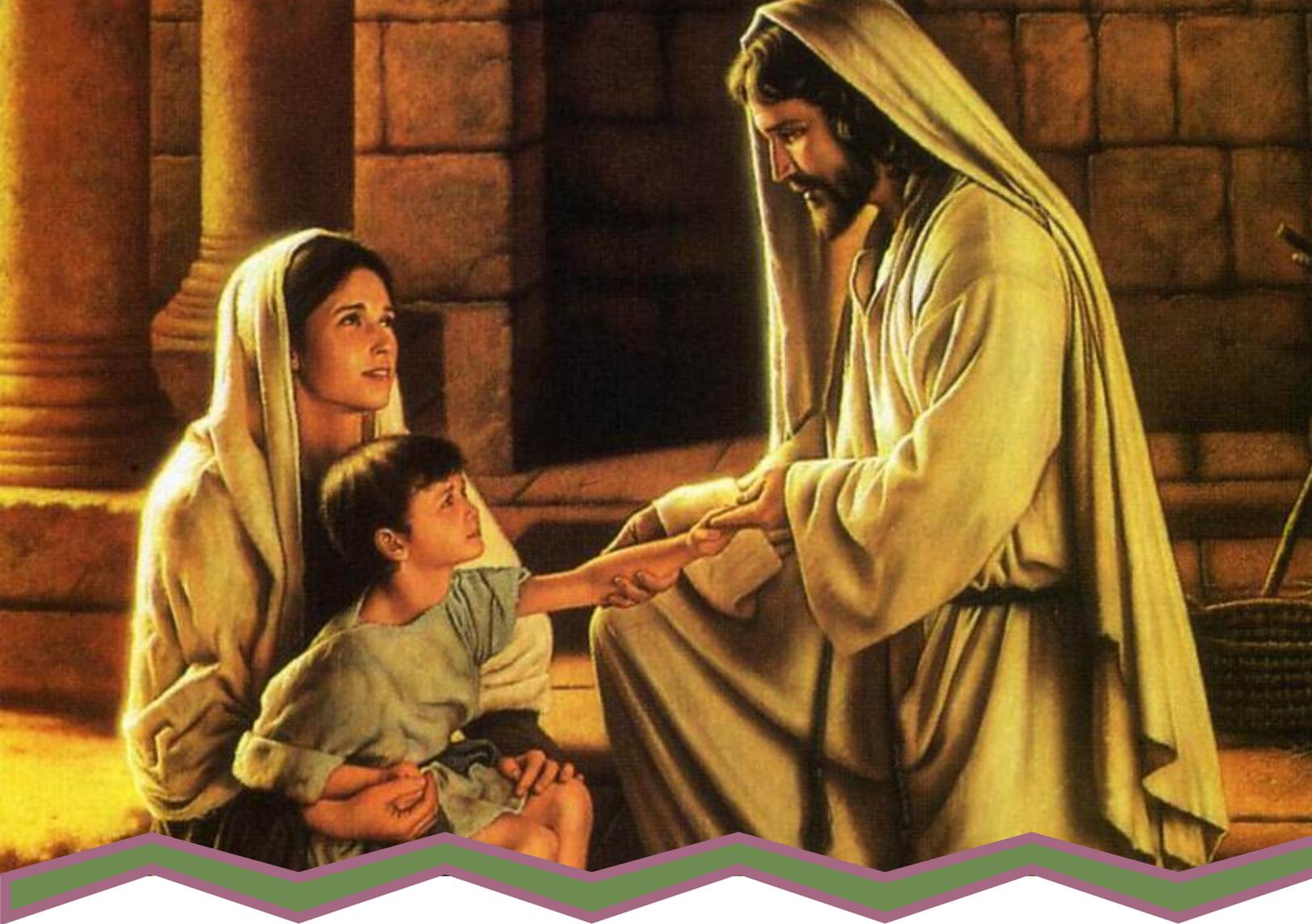
ity rather than give it. The measure with which we judge ourselves we will inevitably judge others and God. Perhaps not openly, perhaps only in the secret recesses of our hearts.

Mother of Mercy



Let us be imitators of Mary, Mother of Mercy, who in child-like confidence allowed Herself to be the object of His Mercy, not limiting what God could do in Her and through Her. So let us not say, I am too young or too old. Let us not say I am too big a sinner, or too ignorant. Let us not give God parameters in which we only allow Him to do in us what

we think we are capable of. Let us give ourselves to Him unreservedly, to Him who knows us better than we know ourselves, and with the same childlike confidence and trust Our Lady did. Let us allow ourselves to be the object of His infinite mercy, letting God, Our Father, love us even to the extent of what seems unreasonable to us who find it difficult to believe that anyone can love us when we make mistakes or sin. Let us let Him love us more than we love ourselves. Let us allow ourselves to throw ourselves onto His heart, in whose loving flames burn our iniquities into a sweet smelling incense that rises to heaven with the odor of filial love that is repentance. Let us allow His love to consume us, as we are, full of faults and fears and regrets, all of what is our humanity. Let us allow His merciful love to take us straight into the abyss which is Himself, and there, love us into being the child He made us to be. In this way we will not only be the object of His mercy, but become a vessel of His mercy. A glorious calling it is indeed. Amen. And he made it part of the octave of Easter, which means it is forever to be understood as the culmination and fulfillment of Easter.



Time For Play!

Playfulness is a virtue, and a much needed one. Archbishop Fulton Sheen reminded us that play is developmentally the precursor to work. It is also recreative for adults.

Prayer is recreative for our spirits, exercise is recreative for our bodies, and play is for our minds and our hearts. It helps to keep our affectivity open, which is essential to being open to God. And it helps to keep our sense of freedom which is essential to making good choices. So let us not forget to have some playful recreation to help us keep a balanced emotional life which of course is helpful to our lives as a whole.



This beautiful illustration & more can be downloaded free to use at <http://www.divinemeracy333.net/index.html>

Happy Easter

Go to Your goal in peace Son...

In memory of how Jesus entrusted the Church to Our Lady and the peace and consolation it gave Him to accomplish our Redemption .

Poem of the Man God Vol. 4 pp 239-241

disciples? Son, tell our Father to give Me the opportunity to thank Him as His gift deserves.»

«Mother! And do You think that the Father needs Me to ask Him that for You? He has already prepared for You the sacrifice which You will have to consume for this perfect praise. And You will be perfect when You have accomplished it...»

«My Jesus!... I understand what You mean... But will I be able to think in that hour?... Your poor Mother...»

«The Blessed Spouse of the eternal Love! Mother, that is what You are. And the Love will be thinking in You.»

«You say so, Son, and I relax on Your Word. But You... pray for Me, in that hour that none of these understands... and which is already impending... That is true, is it not?»

It is impossible to describe the expression of Mary's face during this conversation. No writer can possibly translate it into words without spoiling it with mawkishness or uncertain hues. Only he who has a heart, a kind heart, even if a virile one, can mentally give Mary's face the real expression which it has in this moment.

Jesus looks at Her... Another expression untranslatable into poor words. And He replies to Her: «And You will pray for Me in the hour of death... Yes. None of these understands... It is not their fault. Satan is creating fumes so that they may not see, that they may be like drunken people who do not understand, and therefore unprepared... and easier to bend... But You and I will save them, despite Satan's snares. Mother, I entrust them to You as from this moment. Remember these words of Mine: I entrust them to You. I give You My inheritance. I have nothing upon the Earth, except a Mother, and I offer Her to God: Victim with the Victim; and My Church, and I entrust

it to You. Be her Nurse. A short time ago I was wondering in how many people, in future, the man of Kerioth will be reviving with all his faults. And I was thinking that anyone, who were not Jesus, would reject that faulty being. But I will not reject him. I am Jesus. During the time that You will remain on the Earth, and You are second to Peter with regard to ecclesiastical hierarchy, he being the Head and You a believer, but first as Mother of the Church having given birth to Me, Who am the Head of this mystical Body, do not reject the many Judases, but assist and teach Peter, My brothers, John, James, Simon, Philip, Bartholomew, Andrew, Thomas and Matthew not to reject, but to assist. Defend Me in My followers, and defend Me from those who want to disperse and dismember the dawning Church. And in future centuries, Mother, always be She Who pleads for and protects, defends and helps My Church, My Priests, My believers, from Evil and Punishment, from themselves... How many Judases, o Mother, in future centuries! And how many will be like half-wits who cannot understand, or like blind and deaf people who cannot see or hear, or like cripples and paralytic people who cannot come... Mother, let them all be under Your mantle! You alone can and will be able to change the punishment decrees of the Eternal Father for one soul or for many of them. Because the Trinity will never be able to deny its Flower anything.

«I will do that, Son. As far as it depends on Me, You may go to your goal in peace. Your Mother is here to defend You in Your Church, always.»

«May God bless You, Mother... Come!»



«May God bless You, Son, today.

«May God be with You, Mother. Was the night unpleasant for You?»

«No. On the contrary, very pleasant. I seemed to have You, a little Baby, in My arms... And I dreamed that a kind of golden river was flowing from Your mouth, emitting such a sweet sound that it cannot be described, and a voice said... oh! what a voice: "This is the Word which enriches the world and gives beatitude to those who listen to it and obey it. Without any limitation of power, time or space, It will save". Oh! My Son! And You, My Child, are that Word! How will I be able to live so long and to do so much as to be able to thank the Eternal Father for making Me Your Mother?»

«Do not worry about that, Mother. Every beat of Your heart pleases God. You are the living praise of God, and You will always be so, Mother. You have been thanking Him since You...

«I do not seem to be doing it sufficiently, Jesus. It is so great, so great what God did for Me! After all, what do I do more than all those good women do, who, like Me, are Your



St. Catherine on God's Mercy...

Then comes the Infinite Goodness of God... – Highest and Eternal Wisdom ... finds an attractive way, the most gentle and loving possible to find. For it sees that the heart of man is in no wise so drawn as by love, because he was made by love. This seems to be the reason why he loves so much, that he was made by nothing but love, both his soul and his body. For by love God created him in His Image and Likeness, and by love his father and mother gave him substance, conceiving and bearing a son. God, therefore, seeing that man is so ready to love, throws the hook of love straight at him, giving him the Word His Only-Begotten Son, who takes our humanity, to make a great peace. But justice wills that vengeance should be wrought for the wrong that has been done to God : so comes Divine Mercy and unspeakable Charity, and to satisfy justice and mercy condemns His Son to death, having clothed Him in our humanity—that is, with the clay of Adam, who sinned. So by His death the wrath of the Father is pacified, having wrought justice on the person of His son: so He has satisfied justice and has satisfied mercy, releasing the human race from the hands of demons. ...So then with love He has drawn us, and has conquered our malice with His benignness, in so much that every heart should be drawn to Him... Oh, sweet and amercus Word, who with love hast found thy flock once more, and with love hast given Thy life for them, and hast brought them back into the fold, restoring to them the Grace which they had lost!

April 29



Ever see this photo of
St. Gemma Galgani?

If you'd like to know when to liturgically celebrate this amazing Saint's Feast day, (who was also a Stigmatist), or see 6 more pages of great images, tons of information, her diary etc. Visit this terrific website! <http://www.stgemmagalgani.com>

St. Gemma was canonized May 14th and her feast day is April 11th this year, falling on the Feast of Divine Mercy.



Liturgical Calendar: APRIL

(not on calendar) / Sunday overrides memorial

- 1: Holy Thursday
- 2: Good Friday of the Lord's Passion
(Pope John Paul II: April 2, 2005)
- 3: Holy Saturday
- 4: Easter Sunday; Resurrection of the Lord
- 5-10: Easter Monday to Saturday
- 11: Divine Mercy Sunday (St. Gemma)
- 13: St. Martin I
- 21: St. Anselm
- 23: St. George & St. Adalbert
- 24: St. Fidelis of Sigmaringen
- 28: St. Peter Chanel &
St. Louis Marie De Montfort
(St. Gianna Mola)
- 29: St. Catherine of Siena
- 30: St. Pius V



Can you guess this months Saints?
Answers on bottom of pg.2

Do You have Questions?



YOUR
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NEWSLETTER

As this is your Newsletter...

Email us your questions.
We'd love to hear from you!
It may be selected to be in
the Newsletter, so let us
know if you prefer to
remain anonymous.

Sons & Daughters of the
Blessed Virgin

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St.
Gianna
Berretta
Molla



St. Gianna shares her Feast Day with St. Louis de Montfort, April 28th! How appropriate as these two so mirror Our Holy Mother Mary! Anyone wanting devotion to a spiritual mother should give her a try... They won't be disappointed.