SOFTWARE & TECH

# Divine Mercy Prayer In English

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## Understanding the Divine Mercy Prayer in English

The Divine Mercy devotion is one of the most beloved and widely practiced spiritual traditions in the Catholic Church. At its heart lies a simple yet profound prayer that millions recite daily: the Divine Mercy Prayer in English. Whether you are new to this devotion or looking to deepen your understanding, this article will guide you through the origins, meaning, and practice of this powerful prayer. The Divine Mercy Prayer in English is not merely a set of words; it is an invitation to trust in God's limitless mercy and to extend that mercy to others.

## The Origin of the Divine Mercy Devotion

To fully appreciate the Divine Mercy Prayer in English, it helps to know where it came from. The devotion is based on the revelations of Jesus Christ to Saint Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun who lived in the early twentieth century. Jesus appeared to her repeatedly, asking her to spread the message of His mercy to the whole world. He gave her specific prayers, including the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and requested that an image be painted with the inscription "Jesus, I trust in You."

Saint Faustina recorded these revelations in her diary, now known as the *Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska: Divine Mercy in My Soul*. The Divine Mercy Prayer in English is drawn from these writings and has been translated into countless languages. The prayer is a direct response to Jesus' command: "Encourage souls to say the Chaplet which I have given you."

## What Is the Divine Mercy Prayer in English?

The term "Divine Mercy Prayer in English" can refer to several related prayers, but most commonly it indicates the Chaplet of Divine Mercy. This chaplet is recited using a standard rosary, but the prayers are unique. There is also a shorter, simpler prayer that many use throughout the day: "Jesus, I trust in You." Additionally, the Divine Mercy Novena includes specific intentions and prayers. In this article, we will focus primarily on the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, as it is the most widely used form of the Divine Mercy Prayer in English.

### The Text of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Below is the full text of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy as it is commonly prayed in English. It consists of an opening, the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Apostles' Creed, followed by a series of prayers on the rosary beads.

- Opening: You expired, Jesus, but the source of life gushed forth for souls, and the ocean of mercy opened up for the whole world. O Fount of Life, unfathomable Divine Mercy, envelop the whole world and empty Yourself out upon us. (Then three times: O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You.)
- On the Our Father bead: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

- On each Hail Mary bead: Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death. Amen.
- On the large beads (the “decade” prayers): Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.
- On the ten small beads (each decade): For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.
- Concluding prayer: Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world. (Repeat three times.)

This Divine Mercy Prayer in English is usually recited at 3:00 PM, known as the Hour of Great Mercy, but it can be prayed at any time.

## How to Pray the Divine Mercy Prayer in English

Many people wonder about the proper way to recite the Divine Mercy Prayer in English. It is simple enough for anyone to learn, but its depth is immense. Here is a step-by-step guide.

1. Begin with the Sign of the Cross. Then recite the opening prayers (the optional introductory prayer from Saint Faustina’s diary or simply the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Apostles’ Creed on the crucifix and first three beads of a rosary).
2. On each large bead, say the “Eternal Father” prayer: “Eternal Father, I offer You the Body and Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, in atonement for our sins and those of the whole world.”
3. On each of the ten small beads, say: “For the sake of His sorrowful Passion, have mercy on us and on the whole world.”
4. Repeat for each of the five decades (a full rosary set of five decades, or you may pray only one decade as a shorter devotion).
5. Conclude by saying the “Holy God” prayer three times: “Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.”
6. Optional: Add the closing prayer: “Eternal God, in whom mercy is endless and the treasury of compassion inexhaustible, look kindly upon us and increase Your mercy in us, that in difficult moments we might not despair nor become despondent, but with great confidence submit ourselves to Your holy will, which is Love and Mercy itself.”

The beauty of the Divine Mercy Prayer in English is that it can be adapted to your daily schedule. Some people pray the entire Chaplet every day using a regular rosary, while others say just one decade during a break at work.

## The Significance of the Divine Mercy Prayer in English

Why has this particular prayer become so popular? The Divine Mercy Prayer in English carries profound theological meaning. It is centered on the Passion of Christ and the offering of His Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity to the Father. Each time you pray it, you unite yourself with Christ’s sacrifice and plead for mercy for yourself and the entire world.

Jesus made specific promises to Saint Faustina for those who recite the Chaplet. Among them:

- At the hour of death, I will defend every soul that says this Chaplet as its own glory.
- When they say this Chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as a just Judge but as the Merciful Savior.
- Even the most hardened sinner, if they recite this Chaplet even once, will receive grace for My infinite mercy.

These promises encourage people to pray the Divine Mercy Prayer in English not only for themselves but also for others, especially the dying.

## When to Pray the Divine Mercy Prayer in English

The most traditional time is 3:00 PM, commemorating the hour of Christ's death on the cross. Jesus told Saint Faustina, "At three o'clock, implore My mercy, especially for sinners; and, if only for a brief moment, immerse yourself in My Passion." Many people set a daily reminder to pause at this hour and recite the Divine Mercy Prayer in English. However, the prayer can be offered at any time. The Divine Mercy Novena, which begins on Good Friday and ends on Divine Mercy Sunday (the Sunday after Easter), is another powerful occasion to pray the Chaplet daily.

## Connecting the Divine Mercy Prayer in English to Daily Life

Praying the Divine Mercy Prayer in English is not just about reciting words; it is about living a life of mercy. The devotion calls us to perform acts of mercy, both spiritual and corporal. Jesus taught Saint Faustina that mercy is the heart of the Christian life. When you pray the Chaplet, you commit to being merciful in your words, actions, and prayers.

In a world often marked by division and suffering, the Divine Mercy Prayer in English offers a way to bring healing and hope. It reminds us that no sin is too great for God's mercy, and that we are called to be instruments of that mercy for others.

## Common Questions About the Divine Mercy Prayer in English

### Can I pray the Divine Mercy Prayer in English without a rosary?

Yes. While using beads can help you keep count, you can simply count the prayers on your fingers or in your mind. The essence of the prayer lies in the words and intention, not the physical object.

### Is the Divine Mercy Prayer in English only for Catholics?

While the devotion is rooted in Catholic tradition, people from many Christian denominations have found comfort in praying it. The message of God's merciful love transcends denominational boundaries.

### Do I need to pray all five decades?

No. You can pray as little as one decade, especially if you are new to the devotion. Over time, you may wish to extend your prayer.

## Resources for Learning the Divine Mercy Prayer in English

To help you pray the Divine Mercy Prayer in English more deeply, consider these resources:

- The Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska – the source of all the prayers.
- Online audio recordings of the Chaplet (many Catholic websites and apps offer them).
- Local parishes that pray the Chaplet after Mass or at 3:00 PM.
- Smartphone apps like "Divine Mercy Chaplet" that guide you through the prayers.

These tools can support your journey as you make the Divine Mercy Prayer in English a regular part of your spiritual life.

## Conclusion

The Divine Mercy Prayer in English is a gift to the Church and the world. It is a simple but powerful way to place your trust in God's unfathomable mercy and to intercede for the salvation of souls. From its origins with Saint

Faustina to its global practice today, this prayer continues to transform lives. Whether you are praying for yourself, a loved one, or the whole world, the words of the Divine Mercy Prayer in English carry the hope that mercy will triumph over judgment. Begin today, and discover the peace that comes from saying with all your heart: Jesus, I trust in You.

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