

Repent, the Kingdom of Heaven is near

(Gospel of saint Matthew, 4:17)

WEEK ONE

One of the charismas of the apostles of the Divine Mercy, operating through this cenacle, is to invite sinners to return to God, repent and obtain the forgiveness of their sins.

We are starting a program with a weekly input in this website, that slowly but surely will guide you to your conversion. It is kind of a seminar.

We will go through various themes, like what is the Divine Mercy, who is saint Faustina, what is the Festivity of the Divine Mercy, what is confession, we will be talking about Heaven, Hell, Purgatory, forgiveness, and the fast approaching of the end of time, and much more....

We are having a deadline to observe, an appointment to keep: April 11th, 2021, the next day of the Feast of the Divine Mercy.

Well, convincing a sinner to convert is easier said than done. But Saint Faustina teaches us that if we say the chaplet to Divine Mercy for the conversion of a sinner, that sinner will convert, perhaps not instantly, but will convert, guaranteed, in fact we read in the diary of **Saint Faustina, at the number 1396-97** the following:

- Today I have heard a voice in the soul: "Oh, if sinners knew My Mercy, so many would not perish! Tell sinful souls that they are not afraid to approach Me; speak to them of My great Mercy". The Lord told me: "The loss of every soul plunges Me into mortal sadness. You always console Me when you pray for sinners. The prayer that pleases Me most is the prayer for the conversion of sinners. Know, My daughter, that this prayer is always answered".



We, of the Cenacle of the Divine Mercy, motivate sinners to repent, convert, confess and prepare them to go to the Feast of Divine Mercy on April 11th of next year, when Jesus promised them, that they will be as clean and pure as a second after baptism.

But who are we talking about? Of sinners? Obviously.... But I'm not a sinner, one or two of us would say. But I don't kill anyone, I don't steal and I don't bother anyone. Sinner I? No.... and yet, and yet ... one must not be a murderer, someone who robs banks, who slaughters women, a mobster, a narco to be a sinner.

So wrote **Santa Faustina in n. 1107** in her diary:

"God never forces our free will. It depends on us whether we want to accept God's grace or not, whether we want to collaborate with it, or to waste it".

Well, she pointed her finger at the cause of a person's change, who was born pure, humble, good, into a sinner. With our decision not to receive the grace of God, to reject it, with our decision not to cooperate with it and to waste it, we made the decision to live a life of sinners.

But who says that one must convert? Well, let's read the holy gospel of **St. Matthew 4: 12-13, 17**

12 Having heard that John had been arrested, Jesus retired to Galilee *13* and left Nazareth and came to live in Capernaum, by the sea, in the territory of Zabbulon and Naphtali. *17* From then Jesus began to preach and say: "Repent, because the kingdom of heaven is near".

You see? Jesus said so. And when he spoke, he did not first select sinners from the crowd to offer this encouragement to them, but he said it to everyone who was listening to him. We are all sinners. One thing is certain: Conversion is not something that happens in a particular moment of our life, and it is done: there is no: I am converted, now I am no longer a sinner. In fact, many people believe in this: But are you sure? you are converted? But you are always the same, people say to the ones, who claim to have converted.... Well, they don't know, that conversion is a continuous denial of oneself, to do the will of the Father... .. Little by little, the relapses will decrease until reaching a high degree of holiness, with the help of God.

The question: but why is this Jesus looking for me? Why? It seems to be a surreal question: But what does he have to have with me.... Why does he not leave me alone? Listen to what Jesus himself said about it ...

Let's take the **Gospel of Saint John and read in chapter 6, verses 37 - 40** this:

37 All that the Father gives me will come to me; he who comes to me, I will not reject him, *38* because I came down from heaven not to do my will, but the will of the one who sent me. *39* And this is the will of him who sent me, that I lose nothing of what he has given me, but raise him up on the last day. *40* For this is the will of my Father, that whoever sees the Son and believes in him has eternal life; I will raise him up on the last day. "

As we see in this passage, Jesus confirms that the will of the Father is that no soul is lost. And how? The key word is: conversion ... Jesus asks for conversion. But what does conversion mean, what does converting consist of? What should I do?

Aprile 2021						
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Calendari Michel Zbinden / 62DS

It is not an easy thing, that is for sure.

The most important thing to do to solve a problem is to admit that one has a problem.

Once one has acknowledged that he has a problem, he seeks the solution. And once found, it must be applied.

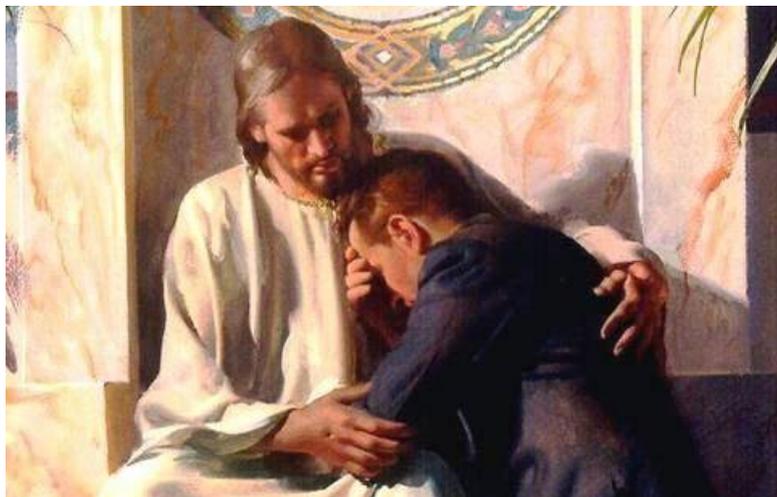
First a feeling of shame, of annihilation must arise in us, we are aware that we are far from God, an unparalleled sadness, called *Anima afflicta*. Then, an intense pain in the soul, which is also expressed through the body, such as, for example, tears and cries, abdominal pains and much more, for having offended Jesus, the one who died on the cross for us for love. This pain does not give us peace, it does not give us satisfaction, until we raise our eyes and see Jesus. He does not ask us for a poetic prayer to put things right. No, what Jesus wants from us, is humility, to kneel before Him and surrender our life to Him, that is, to do His will. To use our free will in His favor, to choose Him and not our ego, therefore to humble ourselves before God.

This would not be enough if these feelings were not accompanied by a sincere intention not to offend God ever again.

With a contrite heart, with the awareness of having offended Jesus with our way of life, with the head bowed and kneeling, pronouncing the intention not to continue to live in a sinful way, looking for Jesus, that is infinitely good and merciful, we approach the confessional and ask for forgiveness.

Every sin is an expression of pride, every time we sin we say: this time, dear God, I do what I want

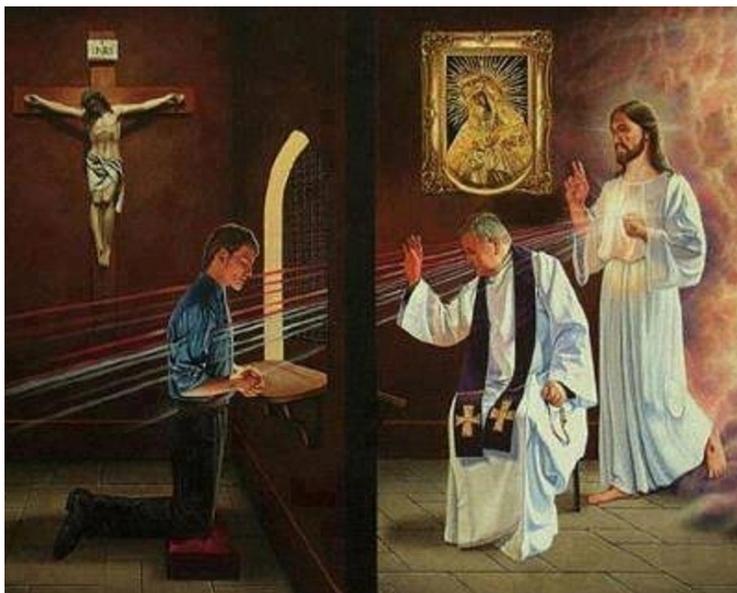
The antidote to pride is humility. Admitting that we were wrong, and telling a man we barely know, the confessor, every single mistake, we make a tremendous act of humility. At that precise moment we sacrifice our self-love, and we sink into the immense sea of Divine Mercy, asking, begging for His forgiveness.



People ask: Shall I convert? But not in my dreams, God was never in my life. And then, even if I want to convert, would He forgive me my sins? They are so many and so serious, I don't think that He will forgive me, ever. I sinned in a big way, and more than once ... Neeeee, he won't forgive me.

To the sinner's typical lack of confidence to be forgiven of his sins, Jesus has already provided an answer.

Saint Faustina recorded in her **diary at #1448**, the words that Jesus told her: *"Write, speak of My Mercy. Tell the souls where they have to seek consolations, that is, in the tribunal of Mercy, the greatest miracles occur that are repeated over and over again. To obtain this miracle, it is not necessary to make pilgrimages to distant lands, nor to celebrate solemn external rites, but it is enough to place yourself with faith at the feet of one of my representatives and confess his own misery and the miracle of Divine Mercy will manifest in all its fullness. Even if a soul were decomposing like a corpse and humanly there was no possibility of resurrection and everything was lost, it would not be so for God: a miracle of Divine Mercy will resurrect this soul in all its fullness. Unhappy those who do not take advantage of this miracle of Divine Mercy! You will invoke him in vain, when it is too late! "*



And again in **#1602 of her diary**

"Daughter, when you approach the holy confession, to this source of My Mercy, My Blood and Water always descend on your soul, which came out of My Heart and ennoble your soul. Every time you go to the Holy Confession, immerse yourselves completely in My Mercy with great confidence, so that I can pour an abundance of My graces on your soul. When you go to confession, know that I myself am waiting for you in the confessional, I cover myself only behind the priest, but it is I who works in the soul. There the misery of the soul meets the God of Mercy. Tell the souls that from this source of Mercy they can draw graces only with the vessel of trust. If their trust is great, My generosity will have no limits. The streams of My grace flood the humble souls. The proud are always in poverty and misery, because My grace moves away from them and goes towards humble souls. "

Jesus reassures us that no matter how great the sins the sinner has done or is doing, the blacker and more scarlet his sins are, the greater his right to Divine Mercy is, confirms Jesus. My Mercy is greater, greater than the most heinous sin.

One our second week, we will talk about Saint Faustina, the secretary of the Divine Mercy.