

Dear Friends of Divine Mercy, greetings!

En route towards Easter, Victory of Merciful Love over death and sin, we resume our meditation on the great mysteries of the sacraments of the Church which we proposed in our last bulletin. Jesus told Saint Faustina: **"Consider the life of God which is found in the Church for the salvation and the sanctification of your soul. Consider the use that you make of these treasures of grace, of these efforts of My love."** (Diary of Saint Faustina #1758)

In this way, by preparing us to renew our baptismal promises in the great and splendid night of Easter, renewal which Lent prepares us for through prayer, fasting and almsgiving, I would like to meditate with you on this "gateway to life in the Spirit, and the door which gives access to the other sacraments (Catechism of the Catholic Church #1213) which is Holy Baptism: the first sacrament of Christian initiation, flowing from the open side of Jesus, as the sacrament of mercy; delivering us from sin; making us a new creature, adoptive children of God, participants in the divine nature (2 Peter 1, 4); members of the Church, the Body of Christ; co-heirs with Him, and a temple of the Holy Spirit. (C.C.C. #1265)

Immense and incomprehensible gift of the grace of God where Divine Mercy is manifested in a particular way, Baptism reveals the generosity of God to those who bring nothing of their own¹ clothing them, not only with a purity lost by sin, but above all, with an inestimable grace: Christ Himself. (Gal.3, 27)

With these few reflections, which are like many expressions from which we can draw an abundance of lights, let's advance with joy towards the Heart of Christ, and let us abandon ourselves with confidence and thanksgiving, making ours the words of the Messenger: **"Thank you, O God, for Holy Baptism which engrafted me into your family, a gift great beyond all thought or expression which transforms my soul."** (Diary #1286)

To each and every one of you, may you have a joyous and blessed Easter!

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¹ In *Saint Faustina's School of Trust*, p. 138. *The Shrine of the Divine Mercy, Cracow*, 2002.