



Jesus I Trust in You

PARISH OF ST. AGATHA

18TH/19TH APRIL 2020 DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

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JESUS IS GLORIFIED THROUGH SUFFERING. SO ARE WE.

Suffering comes in many forms and God calls us to offer to Him all our sufferings as a sacrifice. Suffering begins the glorification process of our souls on earth and also helps convert and purchase sinners from ownership of Satan. Redemption is to Redeem, which means to Rescue (Save) humanity from an eternal death here on earth and beyond the grave. The glorification process of cleansing our souls on earth is a necessary procedure to enter Heaven. The Sacrament of Confession is the perfect and ultimate cleansing and purification solution for one's soul.

HOW DOES FAITH WORK?

If somebody deeply hurts or betrays us, as Judas did with Jesus, we are expected to use that difficult opportunity to practice redemptive suffering, by forgiving the offender who trespassed against us and offer the pain, hurt and misery up to God as a sacrifice. Suffering and Sacrifices are spiritual currencies that purchase eternal Life (Salvation) for us and our brothers and sisters throughout the whole world. This is how we practice our faith, by reaching deep into our broken frail hearts and finding the talent of mercy, as Jesus does for us, with no exception.

STOP HABIT OF SINNING

To break the habit of sinning, to obey God's Word and Divine Will, entails a great degree of suffering, because we are constantly fighting to overcome the passion of the earthly flesh in order to embrace the passion of the Holy Spirit. To love and forgive the most challenging of people (enemies) is the ultimate redeeming act of suffering and love. This is carrying our Cross and mounting it. Suffering illnesses willingly, also contributes to the glorification and purification of the soul, as it detaches us from worldly distractions. We have to Trust God's Plan for us and offer all up as our Sacrifice, as co-redeemers on this earth. Jesus willingly entered into His Suffering to redeem the World. Our suffering achieves the same result of His redeeming work.

MEEK AND HUMBLE OF HEART

We're called to be meek and humble, bearing with one another by practicing Faith through Patience. Jesus wore this Crown of Love, Mercy and Suffering throughout His human life. He reminded us from the Cross, that forgiving each other, out of love, is the only Way to be fully Glorified with Him someday in Heaven. It could not have been easy for Him, since it was our sins that put Him on the Cross, but yet, He practiced what He preached. Jesus took on the scourging marks of suffering that sin inflicts on the soul. Our faith commands that we take ownership of our share in this mission of redemptive suffering to purify the hearts of humanity. Our Mission is to help redeem a disordered world into an ordered one created by God. Fr. Brendan.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY

Today, we celebrate the Feast of Divine Mercy. It is a very special & unique day in the calendar of the Catholic Church, because Jesus offers each of us a very rare opportunity (once a year), to have any outstanding temporary punishment (a prison sentence), due to us in the next life, to be totally removed at this time (up to 25/4/20). God is Divine Mercy, but He is also Divine Justice. His Divine Justice demands that we make retribution for our usual and unrepentant sins in Purgatory. Retribution is a punishment inflicted on an unrepentant soul for sinful acts never corrected on earth. If a sin is confessed in confession and forgiven by Jesus, but the sin continues to rule our lives, then it was never truly confessed with a contrite heart. Our refusal to suffer discipline carries a penalty, to be served in the prison of Purgatory.

EVERY SIN CARRIES A PENALTY

Punishment in the next life is caused by souls not repenting fully for their sins in this life. To believe this, we must first acknowledge that we are sinners. We must believe in the merciful Sacrament of Confession and that Purgatory exists in the next world. Purgatory is an unpleasant prison where the penitent is incarcerated for possibly a long period of years, to unite their sufferings, caused by their unrepentant sins, with the redemptive sufferings of Christ, on the Cross. Hell, on the other hand, is a Prison where there is no chance of getting out. It is sadly an eternal life sentence of suffering for those who rejected God. The souls imprisoned in Purgatory are called Holy, because they are guaranteed to be released someday and enter Heaven, after they have served their time, for offending God on earth. Our prayers and Mass Offerings for them can lead to their release or their sentence being reduced by Jesus. We can avoid Purgatory by uniting our suffering on earth to Jesus' Suffering. At this time, Jesus asks us, through St. Faustina to go to Confession with a contrite heart, attend Mass and venerate the Image of Divine Mercy by praying the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and a 9 Day Novena.

FROM THE PRIVACY OF YOUR HOME

It is possible, only in these Covid 19 times of tribulations, to fulfil these requirements from the privacy of your house. One can venerate the Image at home and attend Mass on the television, as encouraged by Pope Francis. For the time being, one can make a true confession of one's sins with a sorrowful heart and promising Jesus that one will physically go to confession when the Government restrictions are lifted. That is a vital condition for the full removal and remission of any suffering punishment due to us in Purgatory. It is like a second baptism where Jesus gives us a completely new beginning. It is a Spiritual Resurrection of the Soul with the cancelling of all sin and punishment. All outstanding debt due to Him, because of our sins, is completely cancelled in these days only. Jesus expects us to change, repent and amend our lives.

CHURCH TEACHING IN EXTRAORDINARY TIMES

The Catechism of the Catholic Church No. 1452, teaches; *"Where the individual faithful find themselves in the painful impossibility of receiving sacramental absolution, it should be remembered that perfect contrition...expressed by a sincere request for forgiveness...and accompanied by votum [a promise to God to get] confession... by the firm resolution to have recourse, as soon as possible, to sacramental confession, obtains forgiveness of sins, even mortal ones.* Learn to pray the Chaplet of Divine Mercy daily and the Novena to be prayed at this time. Fr. Brendan