



Mercy and Our Common Home: Reflections for the Chaplet of the Divine Mercy

- + **Make the Sign of the Cross**
- + **Pray on the first large bead:** *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.*
- + **Optional: Pray three times:** *O Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fount of mercy for us, I trust in You!*
- + **Pray on the following three small beads:**
 - o **The Our Father**
 - o **The Hail Mary**
 - o **Recite the Apostles Creed**
- + **For each decade, read and meditate on the five #Mercy2Earth Reflections, in order**
- + **Pray on each of the opening beads:**
 - o *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. Amen.*
- + **For each bead of the decade, pray:**
 - o *For the sake of His sorrowful Passion—have mercy on us and on the whole world.*
- + **After you have prayed all five decades of the Chaplet, pray the following prayer, which is repeated three times:**
 - o *Holy God, Holy Mighty One, Holy Immortal One, have mercy on us and on the whole world.*
- + **Pray the closing prayers:**
 - o *Blood and Water, which gushed forth from the Heart of Jesus as a fountain of Mercy for us, I trust in You!*
 - o *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. Amen*

The Five #Mercy2Earth Reflections

+ ***For the poor, the ill, the unborn, the migrant, and the forgotten***

Eternal Father, we acknowledge that “we are one single human family. There are no frontiers or barriers, political or social, behind which we can hide, still less is there room for the globalization of indifference.” (LS 52) And so we pray for our brothers and sisters deprived of worldly needs; those ill in mind, body, or spirit; and those forgotten or abused by the powerful. We pray that they will know the merciful support of their family, their neighbors, their community, their economies, and their governments. Heavenly Father, may the weak of the world feel Your constant embrace. May they know Your Divine Mercy, O Lord; and may they, like us, be forgiven for all sins committed through the temptations of suffering.

+ ***For indigenous peoples***

Eternal Father, we acknowledge that “it is essential to show special care for indigenous communities and their cultural traditions. ... For them, land is not a commodity but rather a gift from God and from their ancestors who rest there.” (LS 146) And so we pray for those people whose lands, waters, air, sacred places, homes, and ways of life have been taken from them, or contaminated and despoiled by others. May they be loved by their neighbor and by the powerful. May they be comforted by the promise of our shared, lasting home with You. May they know Your Divine Mercy, O Lord; and may they, like us, be forgiven for all sins committed through the temptations of oppression.

+ ***For willful polluters***

Eternal Father, we acknowledge that “the degree of human intervention, often in the service of business interests and consumerism, is actually making our earth less rich and beautiful, ever more limited and grey.” (LS 34) Moreover, we acknowledge that “our freedom fades when it is handed over to the blind forces of the unconscious, of immediate needs, of self-interest, and of violence.” (LS 105) And so we pray for our brothers and sisters—especially those business and government leaders, and those consumers—who knowingly harm Your created order for the fulfillment of worldly desires. We pray that through Your merciful grace, their hearts will soften, their minds will open, and they will respond to the cries of the poor and of the earth. Merciful Father, may all who willfully despoil Your creation—its lands, waters, eco-systems, and climate—adopt new lifestyles as they turn toward Your embrace. May they know Your Divine Mercy, O Lord; and may they, like us, be forgiven for all sins committed through the temptations of prosperity.

+ ***For those who pollute in ignorance***

Eternal Father, we acknowledge that a “constant flood of new consumer goods can baffle the heart and prevent us from cherishing each thing and each moment.” (LS 222) And so we pray for all those who seek worldly fulfillment unaware of the consequences of their ongoing consumption. We pray that through Your merciful grace, their eyes and their minds will be opened. We pray that they will hear their own, inner cries, which come from spiritual hunger. Merciful Father, may those who are starved in spirit feel Your fulfilling embrace. May they know Your Divine Mercy, O Lord; and may they, like us, be forgiven for all sins committed through the temptations of desire.

+ ***For the whole world***

Eternal Father, we acknowledge that creation “now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will.” (LS 2) Father of Mercy, You created the garden of Earth and filled it with Your truth, goodness, beauty, and Your divine order. May the renewal of all creation, promised at every Mass, come to fruition with the cooperation, love, and spiritual growth of we, Your creatures. Heavenly Father, we ask this through the Sorrowful Passion of Your Son, Our Lord and Savior, who became human flesh to take away the sins the world.

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