



JESUS I TRUST IN THEE

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MIRACLES OF THE DIVINE MERCY by Mercy Lotilla-Asencio

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## BUILD UP GRACE WITH PRAYER AND ACTS OF MERCY THE ABC'S OF THE DIVINE MERCY

**Our Lord Jesus, the Divine Mercy wants us to know that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow to others. Thus, all will come to share His joy.** The ABCs of Divine Mercy give us easy recall:

### A... ASK FOR MERCY

**God wants us to approach Him in prayer constantly, asking Him to pour out His mercy upon us and upon the whole world.**

God, who created us free, will not force anything on us, not even His mercy. He waits for us to ask: **Ask and it will be given to you... for everyone who asks, receives.** (Matt.7: 7-8) The Scriptures are filled with examples as of **how to trust in God and ask for His mercy.** Examples:

- The psalms
- The faith of Abraham and Moses who pleaded with God
- The man who persuaded his friends to get up in the middle of the night to lend him some bread
- The Canaanite woman's plea for His mercy.

Pope John Paul II reinforces this Biblical message in his encyclical RICH IN MERCY when he says: ***"At no time... especially at a moment as critical as our own – can the Church forget the prayer that is a cry for the mercy of God... The Church has the right and the duty to appeal to the God of mercy with loud cries..."***

To Sister Faustina of the Divine Mercy, Jesus said: **"Souls that make an appeal to My Mercy delight Me. To such souls I grant even more than they ask... Beg for mercy for the whole world... No soul that has called upon My Mercy has ever been disappointed."**

### B... BE MERCIFUL

**God wants us to receive His Mercy and let it flow to others.**

Mercy is love that seeks to relieve the misery of others. It is an active love, poured out upon others to heal, to comfort, to console, to forgive, to remove pain. It is the love that God offers us, and it is the love He demands from us for each other. **"Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful."** (Luke 6: 36)

Jesus said to St. Faustina: **"I demand from you deeds of mercy which are to arise out of love for Me. You are to show mercy to your neighbors always and everywhere. You must not shrink from this or try to excuse yourself from it... Even the strongest faith is of no avail without works..."**

**"If a soul does not exercise mercy in some way, it will not obtain My Mercy on the Day of Judgment."**

How can we exercise mercy? Through our actions, words, prayers, and an attitude of mercy in our daily lives, and by doing these:

### The Corporal Works of Mercy

1) **Feed the hungry.** Never turn away anyone who is hungry, especially the poor, elderly or disabled. Those in authority should try to prevent unemployment. Give work to the unemployed.



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- 2) **Give drink to the thirsty.** A cup of water given in Christ's name shall not lose its reward.
- 3) **Clothe the naked.** Give away your used or superfluous clothing. Help with drives for used clothing.
- 4) **Shelter the homeless.** Give shelter, hospitality or financial aid in cases of fires and natural disasters.
- 5) **Comfort the imprisoned.** Visit prisoners in jail, console and help their families, provide assistance for legal cases of poor families.
- 6) **Visit the sick.** Visit, console and give relief to the sick or elderly - at home or in the hospital. Provide medical assistance, medicines and proper food.
- 7) **Bury the dead.** Attend a wake or funeral; visit a home in mourning and aid the bereaved family.

### The Spiritual Works of Mercy

- 1) **Admonish sinners.** Whenever we think our words may have a good effect, we should not hesitate to admonish those in error - prudently, gently and with charity. Show your good example.
- 2) **Instruct the uninformed.** By teaching religion or other useful knowledge we are doing an important work of mercy.
- 3) **Counsel the doubtful.** We should be eager to help (*prudently and gently*) those whose faith is weak.
- 4) **Comfort the sorrowful.** Show sincere sympathy by speaking of God's providence, of His love and of the happiness He reserves for us in heaven.
- 5) **Be patient with those in error.** With this, we benefit both others and ourselves. Our patience can help others realize their error.
- 6) **Forgive offenses.** Be merciful; never hold a grudge or seek revenge when offended. Forgive and always seek reconciliation.
- 7) **Pray for the living and dead.** Pray for peace in the world, unity in the Church, family problems, the sick, the souls in purgatory.

## C...COMPLETE TRUST

God wants us to know that the graces of His mercy are dependent upon our trust.

**Trust in God is the essence of the message of mercy.** Our Divine Savior made this clear to St. Faustina several times:

**"I have opened My Heart as a living fountain of mercy. Let all souls draw from it. Let them approach this sea of mercy with trust... On the cross, the fountain of My Mercy was opened by the lance for all souls - no one have I excluded! ... The graces of My Mercy are drawn by means of one vessel only, and that is TRUST. The more a soul trusts, the more it will receive..."**

**The ABCs are inter-related, and TRUST is the vital ingredient.**

We ask with complete trust, and Our Lord fills us with grace so that we can be merciful as our Heavenly Father is merciful.

**"I am Love and Mercy Itself. When a soul approaches Me with trust, I fill it with such an abundance of graces that it cannot contain them within itself, but radiates them to other souls."**