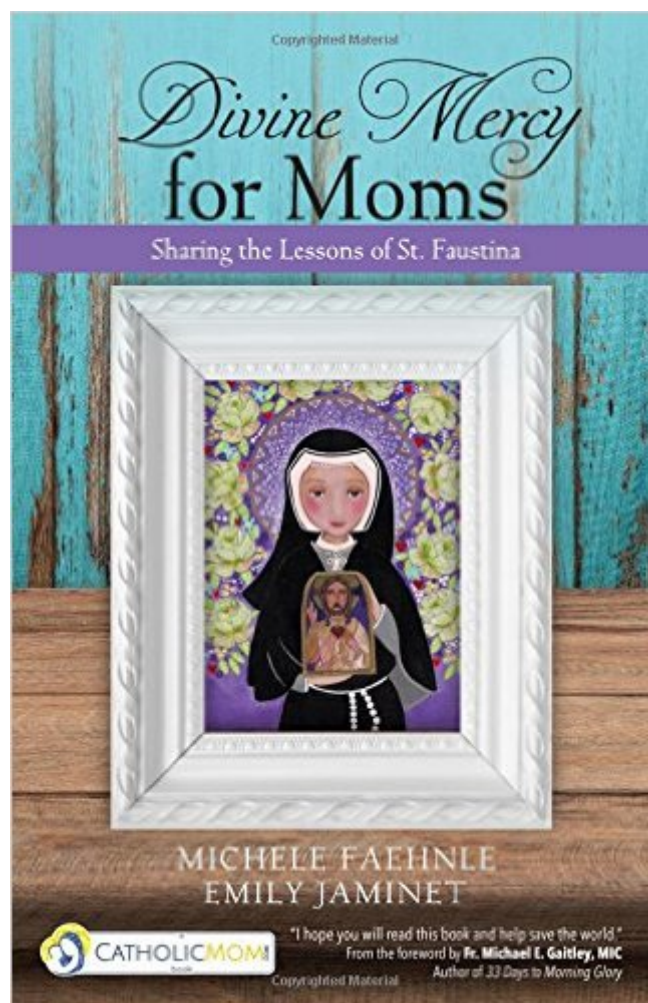


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Divine Mercy For Moms: Sharing The Lessons Of St. Faustina



Synopsis

Divine Mercy for Moms invites mothers to explore and deepen their personal devotion to Divine Mercy during the Jubilee Year of Mercy. Originating in the early twentieth century, the Divine Mercy devotion of St. Faustina Kowalska is one of the most celebrated of all Catholic devotions. In this, their first book, Catholic bloggers and speakers Michele Faehnle and Emily Jaminet break open the history, practices, and prayers associated with the devotion, guiding busy moms to receive God's message of Divine Mercy and pass it on to others through their words, deeds, and prayers. In her famous *Diary: Divine Mercy in My Soul*, St. Faustina Kowalska recorded a series of visions of Jesus where he revealed the Chaplet of Divine Mercy and promised that anything can be obtained with the prayer if it is compatible with his will. St. John Paul II formally established the Divine Mercy devotion and canonized Faustina in 2000. The Marians of the Immaculate Conception are dedicated to spreading the Divine Mercy devotion; the foreword for this book was written by Fr. Michael E. Gaitley, MIC, author of *Divine Mercy Explained* and *33 Days to Morning Glory*. In *Divine Mercy for Moms*, Michele Faehnle and Emily Jaminet, chairwomen of the Columbus Catholic Women's Conference--one of the largest annual Catholic women's conferences in the country--draw upon their own experiences to introduce you to St. Faustina and her five essential elements of the Divine Mercy message: The image of the Merciful Jesus The Feast of Divine Mercy The Chaplet of Divine Mercy The House of Mercy Spreading the honor of Divine Mercy. With heartwarming stories and practical advice, this book reveals that mercy is not just a gift to be received in the confessional but a spiritual resource that strengthens those who extend themselves in word, deed, and prayer. Designed for personal or group study, *Divine Mercy for Moms* celebrates the infinite mercy of God and the role of Mary, the Mother of Mercy, in the lives of all believers. The book also includes group study questions, prayers of mercy, and thirty reflections from the authors' website, DivineMercyforMoms.com.

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Customer Reviews

I have loved reading this book. I'm a Catholic mother of three, and I've been married for about 8 years. I was looking for a way to figure out how to "live" the Year of Mercy the pope proclaimed for this year, and I honestly didn't have a clue what that meant for a little SAHM like me! I don't have a lot of bandwidth for spiritual reading, but this book is easy to read and digest! My favorite thing is that the authors give very practical, doable, small examples and suggestions for being merciful to your family and to everyone from a homeless person at the intersection to a friend who needs some encouragement with a quick text or handwritten note. Concrete examples are so helpful and empowering. I feel like the authors point out so many small opportunities to have a right heart and do seemingly small things that really do bring mercy and kindness to others spiritually and materially.

Thanks to the publisher and to NetGalley for an ARC in exchange for an honest review. This is a simple and easy to follow guide for any woman (not just Moms) who wants to find meaning in her everyday life and share her Catholic faith with the people she encounters daily. The chapters cover the topics of St. Faustina, Apostle of Divine Mercy, Developing trust in Jesus through the Divine Mercy Devotion, Showing Mercy to our neighbor, The Corporal works of mercy, The Spiritual Works of mercy, and Mary, Mother of Mercy. Each one references a writing from St. Faustina's Diary and gives practical ideas to follow the lesson. I am inspired to incorporate the Divine Mercy and the lessons into my daily life after reading the book and want to share it with other mothers.

Since the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of Sacraments decreed it in 2000, the Feast of the Divine Mercy has been celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Earlier that same year, Pope John Paul II canonized a little Polish nun, Sister Faustina, whose diary gave the world a glimpse into God's eternal mercy. When it became a feast, I was woefully unfamiliar with The Divine Mercy and Sister Faustina; I wasn't alone. After much research and inquiry, I've been able to teach myself and pass some of that information on to my kids - but it would have been so much easier to have had a book like Divine Mercy for Moms: Sharing the Lessons of St. Faustina. Authors Michele

Faehnle and Emily Jaminet have taken Sister Faustina's diary and distilled it down to the "must know" facts and information about the saint and the great feast. But more than that, they have given concrete and practical examples of ways that moms and families can perform little works of mercy throughout their day while living out their vocations. Michele and Emily share a lot of their own personal experiences with the Divine Mercy and how it has impacted their lives. I appreciated their personal stories and anecdotes. Sometimes stories like this make living a spiritual life more obtainable for us lay people. The authors have sprinkled some wonderful resources throughout the text and the appendices are chock full very informative and useful information including a study guide. While this book is directed primarily at mothers, as I read it, I kept thinking that it would be a good book for my husband and children to read so that they could be better instructed in the Divine Mercy and the ways of living it in our lives. I also think it is a book that could be instructive and useful to single women and empty nesters. This would be a nice book to have for the Feast of Divine Mercy - and luckily a Kindle version is available too!

In the Foreward to "Divine Mercy for Moms: Sharing the Lessons of St. Faustina," Fr. Michael Gaitley, MIC refers to St. Faustina's "Prayer of Transformation from Within." In that Prayer, St. Faustina asks to be transformed into a living reflection of God's mercy, specifically praying that her eyes, ears, tongue, hands, feet, and heart be instruments of God's tender mercy. Gaitley goes on to affirm that God wants to use not just Faustina, but all of us as instruments of His mercy. Michele Faehnle and Emily Jaminet are both busy moms of several children. In Divine Mercy for Moms they see to give you some practical ways to implement mercy in your life as a mother, and emphasize that mercy should be our focus as mothers. They begin with a short biography of St. Faustina, the Apostle of Divine Mercy, and the history of the Divine Mercy image. The next chapter focuses on the elements of the Divine Mercy devotion: the image, the feast, the chaplet, the hour of great mercy, and spreading devotion to Divine Mercy. Chapters three through six focus on how we can show mercy to our neighbors (including our families) through the spiritual and corporal works of mercy. The final chapter illustrates how our Blessed Mother is the Mother of Mercy and a role model for all of us. Each chapter begins with a quote from the "Diary of St. Faustina" and ends by offering practical tips for living a life of mercy. The Appendices include much helpful information. There are prayers, a "Thirty Days of Mercy" which offers mini-reflections on quotes from "The Diary of St. Faustina," and a study guide for group use of this book. In this Year of Mercy, "Divine Mercy for Moms" offers both spiritual nourishment and practical advice for performing works of mercy. It is heartily

recommended.

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