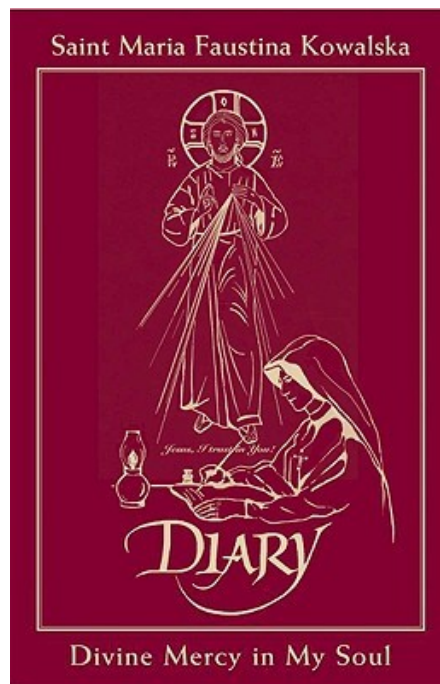




Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska - In Burgundy Leather: Divine Mercy in My Soul

Maria Faustina Kowalska

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Stock up in time for the Lenten Season and Mercy Sunday on this beautiful leatherbound Deluxe Edition of the Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska Divine Mercy in My Soul the book that sparked the Divine Mercy movement with more than 800,000 copies sold to date. This special edition of the Diary, published in commemoration of the first World Apostolic Congress on Mercy, April 26, 2008 in Rome, Italy, is now available in soft burgundy or blue leather with gold foil, gilded edges and a ribbon marker. It is a book for every Catholics library one that many will want to keep next to their Bible for constant insight and inspiration. The Diary is an amazing narrative that chronicles the experiences of a simple, uneducated Polish nun who received a special call shortly before the outbreak of World War II. The message of The Divine Mercy is simple. It is that God loves us all of us. And, He wants us to recognize that His mercy is greater than our sins, so that we will call upon Him with trust, receive His mercy, and let it flow through us to others. The Diary is truly a vehicle of grace for all who read it, for in reading it one can realize the truth that mankind will not have peace until it turns with trust to Gods mercy, (Diary, 300).

Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska - In Burgundy Leather: Divine Mercy in My Soul Details

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Kristina says

I am still reading this book, as it takes sometime to fully comprehend the magnificent power and love of God. I am amazed at all Saint Faustina had to go through, and I am thankful to God that we could have such a wonderful soul who lived amongst us.

Barbara says

This book really transcends all other books. Saint Faustina brings the truth of God's mercy to life. It brought me closer to my faith and still gives me hope. "Jesus I Trust in You."

A.J says

Has changed and deepened my relationship with The Lord. Anyone who's Catholic should read this book as it contains the integral mystery of God revealed-namely it focuses on One of Two of His Most powerful Characteristics, His Mercy. [The other being His Love].

Please everyone read this diary, you discover so much. Jesus Himself gives insights into the Confessional [people who read this will gain a deeper understanding to this Sacrament, more peace and how The Lord Himself comes to meet us through the man of the Priest]. It's along the lines of: the Confessional is where "our misery meets God's Mercy] Never will God refuse a contrite soul. God wanted this book to be read by ALL! St. Faustina wrote so ALL could read this book! Jesus wants you to come to Him in confidence and trust. I cannot stress this book enough.

Pax Christi everyone! xx

Eliza Mune says

Lenk?s vienuol?s dienoraštis, kur? jai liep? rašyti jos dvasinis vadovas po to, kai Faustina pasak?, kad mat? J?z?. Šis dienoraštis tai J?zaus žinia perpinta asmeniniais vienuol?s išgyvenimais ir pamastymais. Faustina Marija Kowalska buvo oficialiai Katalik? Bažny?ios paskelbta šventaja, o pa?io J?zaus paveikslas, kur? J?zus jos praš? nutapyti buvo nutapytas Vilniuje ir dabar kabo Vilniaus Dievo Gailestingumo šventov?je. Daugel? vizij? Faustina reg?jo taip pat Vilniuje, tod?l Lietuvos katalikams tai ypatinga knyga. Subalansuota krikš?ionims, bet manau b?t? puikus skaitinys ir psichiatrui. O tikin?iajam psichiatrui iš viso perlas.

C. says

I read an earlier printing of this book. Intense read..I love reading about her conversations with Jesus. The

intimacy of her friendship with Him is something I find enormously consoling - because I know how much He desires this same intimacy with all of us.

Desi Zavatta Musolino says

I'm learning what God can do if we leave our lives into His hands, I'm totally loving this book.

booklady says

Although I have finished *Divine Mercy in My Soul* now for the second time, I don't plan to ever really be 'finished' with this book as in setting it down with a sense of mastery. The Diary of Saint Maria Faustina Kowalska (Sr. Faustina) speaks to the completely unfathomable mercy of God for sinful mankind and our almost total oblivion to this inescapable fact.

To even spend a few minutes reading or listening to her words and pondering this great mystery can awaken one to the reality of our complete nothingness in relation to God and yet His absolute passion for and delight in each little soul. Her writing reminded me that humility isn't so much a virtue as it is our proper place. Then while I would be pondering my own insignificance, in the next paragraph or on the next page, Our Lord would speak and tell her that we should be bold in our prayers, confident of His Love despite our own lack of merits. This is what made this text so rich and such a wellspring for heart-to-heart with our Creator-Savior-Sanctifier God.

I purchased the audio version of the book and have used it often these past few months for meditation/prayer purposes. Many of the CDs also include beautiful musical selections interspersed with the book's text.

The diary is read as a dialogue between Sr. Faustina and Jesus with a few words also from the Blessed Mother. The actress who reads for the little Polish nun does in fact have an accent, which I thought not only appropriate but delightful. Some listeners might not share my opinion.

My only regret is that there is still no Kindle version of this book as I went back and forth between reading and listening depending on purpose, venue and occupation. Due to its formidable size the Diary would make a good brick, but doesn't easily slip into purse or pocket. Although not on Kindle there are some free e-book versions available although I cannot attest to their completeness, formatting or usability.

Sr. Faustina's Diary is most highly recommended for raising awareness of our right relationship to God, how we can and do choose to have His Mercy and/or His Justice and how He never ceases reaching out to us His creatures.

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February 18, 2014: This book can be read in so many different ways. During my first encounter with the *Diary* back in 1997, I read it cover-to-cover. You might say I gulped it down. This time, I taking my time with it. Also I am listening to it, at the rate of approximately a disc every few days. As I listen, I frequently pause to underline or highlight sections, quotes of Jesus or resolutions of Sr. Faustina. Often her thoughts become mine. Jesus's words to her seem directed to me and I find myself praying her prayers. I expect that many before and after me have done and will continue to do the same.

A beautiful and deeply inspiring work! Time permitting, I want to go back and include many of my favorite quotes from this book here on GR.

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Jesus says to Faustina repeatedly, I do not reward for success/good results but for patience and hardship (suffering) undergone/endured (not sought) for My sake.

Mary Rubega says

I started this book a number of times and always put it down. Then a priest told me that reading the book was given to him as a penance. He said it was the longest penance of his life because it took him over a year to complete. Armed with that information I was able to pick it up and read it through.

It has been a few years since I read the book, but as I recall there are a number of things that stand out.

Sr. Faustina was very humble and frail.

She regularly had conversations with Jesus and Mary and was instructed by her confessor to write everything down. She was told that Poland would suffer for their indiscretions (This is just before the WWII invasion.) She once brought bread to a beggar outside the convent gates, only later to have a conversation with Jesus, that it was Him.

Early on she was given the charge of getting an image of Jesus painted and spreading the word of God's unfathomable mercy. The book details Faustina's doubt and fear as well as the resistance she encounters and her many, many daily revelations.

Jesus taught her the Devine Mercy Chaplet, which she said frequently for dying souls, many of whom asked her to pray for them (even though they were miles away).

Today the image that was painted is the Image of Devine Mercy Sunday, the Sunday after Easter.

From the book: On one occasion, I heard these words: My daughter, tell the whole world about My Inconceivable mercy. I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day the very depths of My tender mercy are open. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy. The soul that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion shall obtain complete forgiveness of sins and punishment.* [our emphasis] On that day all the divine floodgates through which grace flow are opened. Let no soul fear to draw near to Me, even though its sins be as scarlet. My mercy is so great that no mind, be it of man or of angel, will be able to fathom it throughout all eternity. Everything that exists has come forth from the very depths of My most tender mercy. Every soul in its relation to Me will I contemplate My love and mercy throughout eternity. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy. (Diary 699)

Adam says

Amazing diary from a great Saint of the church. Great insight into the unfathomable mercy of Jesus Christ.

Leo says

If you want to know what it means to be in mystical union with Christ while on earth and in recent history, 1930s, this book will teach you. I hope to build on this book by studying deeper the books on my list by Fr. Thomas Dubay and Thomas Richard to learn how to achieve that union. All of those books tell the how and why, but the real challenge is in the doing.

Briefly, the idea is to eradicate mortal sin, then venial sin, then wait for God to give you the gift of infused contemplative prayer. We can choose to do only the first two.

Catholic contemplative prayer is not meant only for the monastery and cloister. JP II and the Vatican urge all Catholics to strive for it. Contemplative prayer and living in the world are possible and not mutually exclusive. On pages 106-107 of *The Fire Within*, St. Theresa of Avila explains that she simultaneously was in mystical union with Christ while she conducted the daily business of administering and founding monasteries, and being a spiritual adviser to a bishop, priests and her brother. She said she was something like Mary and Martha in the same person at the same time.

Google The Chaplet of Divine Mercy for a summary of the teachings, benefits and how to say the Chaplet. The Chaplet is recited daily on EWTN at 3 pm Eastern Time.

JP II established Divine Mercy Sunday as the first Sunday after Easter. After satisfying the requirements for that devotion on that day, a plenary indulgence is granted for the person saying the prayer and for named persons in Purgatory. Christ promised St. Faustina that at the time of death he would grant the dying the choice of heaven or hell--no matter how scarlet their sins.

Darlene Matule says

Because I wanted to have a “quick” reference to all the golden information in the unabridged “Diary”, when I finished reading the book I spent seven hours copying the “to save” passages I had marked with “yellow stickies” during my reading time. I finished this task at 8 p.m. on August 8, 2014. I plan on meditating on this “Mini-Diary” regularly in the hope that it will bring me closer to my Faith and my God and that it will guide me to “where He wants me” for the remainder of my life here on earth.

Vesna says

A real gem among the world's mystic literature.

A fascinating glimpse into the inner life and struggles of a person who was a genuine mystic.

Sister Faustina appeared to be an average strangely behaving scrupulous person who was perhaps suffering from hallucinations.

However, in her diary, saint Faustina reveals her rich and intense inner life. She does not pretend to be a perfect person. She is not ashamed to admit huge struggles and self-doubt she had to face. Her strong relationship with God was based exactly on these sufferings people were not aware of.

She can serve as an example of a truly strong female character. She never deceived her ideals, despite huge problems and humiliation that would follow.

In her narration, we learn about the great love God has for each of us and we are encouraged to have deep faith and trust in Him at all times. Even when things get tough.

The power of devotion to Jesus and to the picture of Divine mercy is explained. They can be a source of deep hope and strength for all of us.

Of course, it is certainly not a quick read. It definitely takes time to get through the book and meditate about it. It is enough to read only one passage or a few pages a day. The text is so rich in meaning that one needs time to digest all that is being said. It might serve as a basis for prayer or spiritual exercise.

I recommend this book to all people regardless of their denomination. It is one of those books that can be read over and over again, always finding something new. I would compare it to the great works such as Dark Night of a Soul by John of the Cross, Therese of Avilla or to Little Therese of Lisieux.

R says

In the meditation on the goal for man, I understood that this truth is deeply rooted in my soul, and that my deeds are therefore the more perfect. I know why I was created. All creatures taken together cannot take the place, for me, of my Creator. I know that God is my ultimate goal and so, in whatever I undertake, I take God into account. para 1329

When I hesitate on how to act in some situations, I always ask Love. It advises best. Para 1354

Jesus: Oh, how painful it is to Me that souls so seldom unite themselves to Me in Holy Communion. I wait for souls, and they are indifferent toward Me. I love them tenderly and sincerely, and they distrust Me. I want to lavish My graces on them, and they do not want to accept them. They treat Me as a dead object, whereas My Heart is full of love and mercy. In order that you may know at least some of My pain, imagine the most tender of mothers who has great love for her children, while those children spurn her love. Consider her pain. No one is in a position to console her. This is but a feeble image and likeness of My love. Para 1447

Jesus: Write, speak of My mercy. Tell souls where they are to look for solace; that is, in the Tribunal of Mercy [The Sacrament of Reconciliation]. There the greatest miracles take place [and] are incessantly repeated. To avail oneself of this miracle, it is not necessary to go on a great pilgrimage or to carry out some external ceremony; it suffices to come with faith to the feet of My representative and to reveal to him one's misery, and the miracle of Divine Mercy will be fully demonstrated. Were a soul like a decaying corpse so that from a human standpoint, there would be no [hope of] restoration and everything would already be lost, it is not so with God. The miracle of Divine Mercy restores that soul in full. Oh, how miserable are those who do not take advantage of the miracle of God's mercy! You will call out in vain, but it will be too late. Para 1448

Jesus: Listen, My daughter, although all the works that come into being by My will are exposed to great sufferings, consider whether any of them has been subject to greater difficulties than that work which is directly Mine – the work of Redemption. You should not worry too much about adversities. The world is not as powerful as it seems to be; its strength is strictly limited. Know, my daughter, that if your soul is filled

with the fire of My pure love, then all difficulties dissipate like fog before the sun's rays and dare not touch the soul. All adversaries are afraid to start a quarrel with such a soul, because they sense that it is stronger than the whole world... para 1643

May 1, 1938. This evening Jesus said to me, My daughter, do you need anything? I answered, "O my Love, when I have You I have everything." And the Lord answered, if souls would put themselves completely in my care, I Myself would undertake the task of sanctifying them, and I would lavish even greater graces on them. There are souls who thwart My efforts, but I have not given up on them; as often as they turn to Me, I hurry to their aid, shielding them with My mercy, and I give them the first place in My compassionate Heart. Para 1682

Today the Lord said to me, My daughter, look into My Merciful Heart and reflect its compassion in your own heart and in your deeds, so that you, who proclaim My mercy to the world, may yourself be aflame with it. Para 1688

Jesus: Tell sinners that I am always waiting for them, that I listen intently to the beating of their heart... when will it beat for Me? Write that I am speaking to them through their remorse of conscience, through their failures and sufferings, through thunderstorms, through the voice of the Church. And if they bring all My graces to naught, I begin to be angry with them, leaving them alone and giving them what they want. Para 1728

Walter says

It was disturbing to me to have to give this book three stars, since I really did learn a lot from it. The Diary is a compilation of the daily writings of Sister Faustina Kowalska, a Polish nun who was eventually elevated to the Sainthood by Pope John Paul II, and whose Divine Mercy movement was also honored by the institution of the Divine Mercy Sunday feast day of the Catholic Church. Saint Faustina was a woman of obvious spiritual depth, and her visions of Christ and the spiritual world were excellent lessons for the spiritual growth of Catholics.

So why did I give this book only 3 stars? For several reasons - the first reason is that the book is poorly structured and hard to follow. The narrative runs roughly from St. Faustina's days as a postulant in the convent through to her death in 1938, but in some places it jumps from one decade to another, and from one subject to another. There is no flow from one subject to another. In one paragraph she is talking about her health, in the next she is talking about a vision from Jesus, in the next after that she is talking about obedience to her spiritual director, and then she is back to her health. Another issue that I have with this novel is that the visions of St. Faustina are seemingly unreal and contrived. While I believe that St. Faustina actually had these visions, the way that she discusses them in this book make them seem more like delusions than visions. Granted that it is difficult to describe divine intervention in the form of visions, this book does a particularly poor job of it. I could completely see how a non-believer would write this stuff off as a psychosis, and that is a shame. The profound teachings that St. Faustina discusses in this book are too important to be written off in this way.

Overall, I would recommend this book to believing Catholics who are willing to struggle with the lack of structure and difficult prose of this book in order to mine the diamonds from this mine full of quartz. For people who are not deeply involved in Catholic theology, and especially for non-believers, I would not recommend this book.

Indigolegend says

Written from the wrenching heart of a young woman who at first did not believe there was a space on this planet for her much less the beautiful one assigned to her by a loving Savior. A frank and at times terrifying and at others so warm and loving, this book is an accounting of the few short years of Sr. Faustina's life, one that eventually led to sainthood. I have also listened to this book on CD and it was beautifully done and followed the book precisely. It was actually easier to listen to the first time , at least that is how I did it with them using very authentic accents. when I read the book afterwards, the prose actually jumped to life with the voices from the CD.

There is no doubt that reading a book as daunting as this with so much imagery, catechism, Catholic Doctrine, life at the convent, evangelism and her deteriorating health may chase some away; but this is a book that you can read and pick up at your leisure. You can also use it as a page a day and let St. Faustina's book open on just the right page for you everyday. There are that many golden nuggets and prayers stuffed ever so carefully on each and every page.

I can't say more for it is such a personal experience; except if you read it because of what I have said, relax , there is no right or wrong here, no test. Just a story a small town girl who makes it big; and if you pray to her she is know to give back some of the graces she received.

Tina
