

2004 - Spreading the Message of Divine Mercy

Cenacle Formation and Facilitators Training Seminars

During the spring of 2004, there was a growing number of people who were interested in starting a cenacle in their parishes or communities. We invited Gretchen Robens (the Cenacle Development Leader in Florida) to visit Hawaii to conduct a seminar on cenacle formation. She also provided training for the would-be facilitators or cenacle leaders. Prospective members were presented with the guidelines established by the experts and approved by the Congregations of the Marians of the Immaculate Conception in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. Gretchen conducted the seminars in the islands of Oahu and Kauai. In Kauai, a priest and a religious sister attended the training seminar.



Oahu Seminar



Kauai Seminar

Feast of Divine Mercy Sunday 2004

In response to the Lord's instructions to St. Faustina to ***‘Do all you possibly can for this work of mercy’*** (Feast of the Divine Mercy), the EADM Hawaii organized a special celebration at the Immaculate Conception parish in West Oahu. With the timely visit of Gretchen Robens, we asked her to give a talk on the Feast of Mercy and the Divine Mercy Image. A special mass was celebrated observing this great feast day, and the Chaplet was sung by a youth choir. The event was concluded with the dedication and veneration of a life-size Vilnius Divine Mercy Image. This would become the first Divine Mercy Crusade in Hawaii.



Gretchen Robens explains the
Feast of Divine Mercy

Divine Mercy Conference 2004 – A Way of Life

A conference focusing on Divine Mercy as a Way of Life was held in September 2004. The ballroom at the Waikiki Marriott Beach Resort was filled to capacity as over 500 participants from all the islands attended this special event. Represented during the conference were all types of people - families, young adults and youths, members of Catholic organizations such as the Third Order of Mary, the Charismatic prayer groups, Eucharistic Adoration groups, ethnic groups, priests, religious and lay leaders. The list of guest speakers included Divine Mercy experts such as Fr. Seraphim Michalenko MIC, Dr. Robert Stackpole, Gretchen Robens, Fr. Joe Whalen MS and Sr. Caterina Esselen and Sr. Teresa dela Fuente of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in Boston. Honolulu Vicar General Fr. Joseph Grimaldi gave the opening talk on “Time for Mercy”. Also present were guests from Scotland, internationally recognized artist Tommy Canning of the Art of Divine Mercy (www.art-of-divinemeracy.co.uk) and his brother Allan Canning who provided a powerful DVD presentation on the passion of Jesus during the singing of the Chaplet of Divine Mercy.

Just less than a year before this first conference was held, the EADM cenacle members thought that organizing one was an ambitious desire. But with God, nothing is impossible. A few people who were initially skeptic that a small cenacle group can organize a conference, learned a lesson in TRUST. They relied on human skills and resources. We trusted in God’s Divine Providence.



Divine Mercy Conference 2004