

# Divine Mercy Timeline



## Birth

**Aug 25, 1905**

Helen Kowalska is born in the village of Glogowiec, Lodz Province, Poland.

## Life as a nun

**April 30, 1926**

Helen Kowalska receives her habit and her new name: Sister Maria Faustina of the Most Blessed Sacrament.



## A Vision of the Lord

**Feb 22, 1931**

Through a vision, the Lord Jesus commissions Sr. Faustina to paint an image according to the pattern she beholds (*Diary*, 47).

The painting of the image of The Divine Mercy, executed by artist E. Kazimirowski under the guidance of Sr. Faustina, is completed. She cries because the image is not as beautiful as she had seen Him.



## Secretary of Mercy

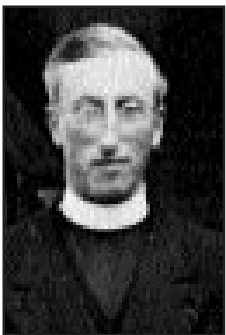
**July 28, 1934**

In obedience to the Lord Jesus and her confessors, Sr. Faustina begins writing her *Diary, Divine Mercy in My Soul*.

## Passing On

**Oct 5, 1938,**

at 10:45 p.m., Sr. Faustina, after long sufferings borne with great patience, goes to the Lord.



## Message brought to the U.S.

**May 1941**

Fr. Joseph Jarzebowski, MIC, flees war-torn Poland and reaches his Congregation's House of Studies in Washington, DC, after a miraculous trek through Lithuania, Russia, Siberia, and Japan. He brings with him materials concerning the message, devotion, and feast. These had been entrusted to him by Fr. Michael Sopocko, Sr. Faustina's primary spiritual director.

## Spreading the message

**Oct 1943**

Three of Fr. Joseph's fellow Marian priests decide to undertake the spreading of the Divine Mercy message and devotion.

## Divine Mercy message prohibited

**March 7, 1959**

As Sr. Faustina had predicted (*Diary*, 378), the message and devotion fall upon hard times with Church authorities, and promotion of the message is prohibited.



## Shrine Completed

**1960**

The National Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, MA, is completed after 10 years of work by local craftsmen.



## Life Examined

**Oct 21, 1965**

Pressure from the laity sparks the Archdiocese of Cracow to begin a solemn session for the Informative Process relating to the life and virtues of Sr. Faustina. It is 27 years after her death, and from this moment, she is

given the title, Servant of God. The process is conducted under the overall leadership of Archbishop Karol Wojtyla of Cracow.



## Ban is lifted

**April 15, 1978**

After 20 years, the Vatican lifts the ban on the message and devotion. A theologian appointed by Cardinal Wojtyla has just spent 10 years thoroughly examining the *Diary*. In his final report, he states nothing is found contrary to the faith. Six months after the ban is lifted, Karol Wojtyla is elected Pope.



## Two Miracles

**March 28, 1981**

Maureen Digan, suffering from incurable lymphedema, is miraculously healed during prayer at

Faustina's tomb. And in 1995, Fr. Ron Pytel prays on Faustina's feast day, Oct. 5, for healing of a serious heart condition.

After venerating a relic of hers, he collapses and feels paralyzed. According to his doctors, his heart is healed.



## Process of Canonization

**Jan 31, 1968 – April 30, 2000**

By a Decree of the Sacred Congregation for the Causes of Saints, the process of Canonization of the Servant of God, Sr. Faustina is formally inaugurated. On March 7, 1992, she is declared a "Venerable Servant of God," and on April 18, 1993, she is beatified in St. Peter's Square.

On April 30, 2000, Divine Mercy Sunday, she is canonized by Pope John Paul II. She is the first saint declared by the Church in the Great Jubilee Year.