

October 5th: Memorial of Saint Faustina Kowalska, Virgin

Gospel text (Jn 15:1-8): Jesus said to his disciples: “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit...”

St. Mary Faustina Kowalska, virgin (1905-1938)

EDITORIAL TEAM evangelii.net (based on texts by Saint John Paul II)

(Città del Vaticano, Vatican)

Today is the feast of St. Faustina Kowalska. Jesus Christ chose her as His “Secretary” to spread the Divine Mercy Devotion, which reaches human beings through the heart of Christ crucified: “My daughter, say that I am love and mercy personified”, Jesus will ask Sr Faustina. Christ pours out this mercy on humanity through the sending of the Spirit who, in the Trinity, is the Person-Love. And is not mercy love's “second name”?

By divine Providence, the life of this humble daughter of Poland was completely linked with the history of the 20th century. In fact, it was between the First and Second World Wars that Christ entrusted his message of mercy to her. Jesus told Sr Faustina: “Humanity will not find peace until it turns trustfully to divine mercy.” Humanity must let itself be touched and permeated by the Spirit given to it by the risen Christ.

—And you, Faustina, a gift of God to our time, a gift from the land of Poland to the whole Church, obtain for us an awareness of the depth of divine mercy: “Christ Jesus, I trust in you!”