

Divine Mercy Sanctuary in Hollywood

From 2003 the parish of Christ the King in Los Angeles owns its Sanctuary of Divine Mercy. The image of the Merciful Christ is venerated in a separate chapel. The image traveled a long way from Poland, St. Faustina's country, through the Vatican to find its place here in Hollywood, on the other side of the Atlantic Ocean.

The modest nun has heard the words repeated today in uncountable languages: **"Tell the world about My mercy and My love."** (*Diary 1074*). Thanks to devotees to God's Mercy, and especially to Fr. Antonio Cacciapuoti and Fr. George J. Bobowski, the echo of these words of Jesus became much louder even in the world's movie capital – Hollywood. The image at the Church of Christ the King, one of the contemporary copies of the countenance known through Saint Faustina's revelations, deserves special attention, for it has been blessed by the Holy Father Blessed John Paul II on April 30, 2003 during an special audience in the Vatican. The great Pope of Mercy has placed his signature on the image.



Looking carefully to this image, you will see this exceptional signature.

The faithful from the Parish of Christ the King led spiritually by their pastor Fr. Antonio Cacciapuoti and Father

George J. Bobowski prepared themselves for the enthronization of the image with prayers and deep reflection during special days of retreat conducted by Bishops from Bialystok - City of Mercy. First, on September 6 and 7, 2003, they have met Bishop Edward Ozorowski, who delivered the lecture titled "Is There a Need to Talk About God's Mercy These Days?" Thanks to the Lay Institute of Divine Mercy Bishop Ozorowski also gave as a gift to every Parishioner of Christ the King his book "Dialogues on Divine Mercy" in English and Spanish, published by the Oficyna Wydawnicza "Wybor".

The main celebration took place one week later, on September

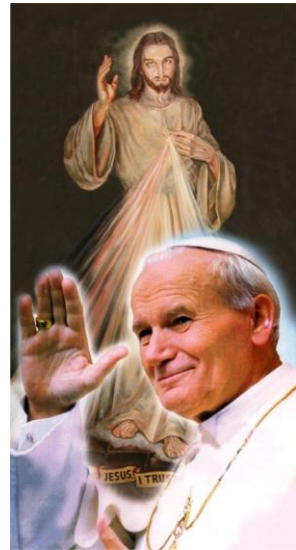


Father George humbly requesting Holy Father to Bless Christ the King's Divine Mercy Image.

13 and 14; presided by Archbishop Stanislaw Szymecki from Bialystok, Poland. On the first day conference he taught about the "Divine Mercy according to

the teachings of John Paul II" and celebrated Holy Mass. The following day, during the solemnly concelebrated Holy Mass, Archbishop Szymecki blessed the Chapel of Divine Mercy in Christ the King Church. This first sanctuary of Divine Mercy in Los Angeles was made possible thanks to the generosity of the Easton and Chen Families. This is where the image of the Merciful Christ found its place. On September 14, the day the Chapel was blessed coincides with the Solemnity of the Elevation of the Cross and the day when Christ, on September 14, 1935, dictated to Saint Faustina the Chaplet to the Divine Mercy.

On April 11, 2010, on the Feast of Divine Mercy, the new altar has been completed and solemnly blessed by Fr. Antonio Cacciapuoti and Fr. George J. Bobowski. The altar was built by Mr. William Gonzalez and donated by the Chen Family.



This very new center of devotion to the Divine Mercy has made a considerable contribution to the spreading of the devotion to Divine Mercy, which occupies an important place in the ministry of the Priests serving at Christ the King Parish. Divine Mercy is a way of Life for the parishioners.

The Hollywood Sanctuary has become a Shrine of Divine Mercy. Jesus is really present, miracles had happened and continue to happen touching people's lives.

I strongly believe that it was God's Will to bring the Devotion to His Mercy to Hollywood and allowed us to be instruments of His mercy.

Thanks to you, the parishioners of Christ the King Parish, who embraced Divine Mercy in this specific place. My gratitude and thanks to Msgr. Paul M. Montoya – Pastor at Christ the King Parish in Los Angeles, who is continuously spreading the Divine Mercy in



his community and I am sure that he will be the Apostle of Divine Mercy for eternity. Specially my thanks to the leaders of the Divine Mercy Ministry. Also my gratitude goes to the "Faustinum" formation groups and its moderator: Lelis Cruzata, who introduced me to Father Antonio and who for many years has been working and collaborating with the "Library of Mercy" under the supervision of Archbishop Edward Ozorowski.

Here, in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles I found thousands of thousands of people devoted to the Divine Mercy. I believe that the Shrine of Divine Mercy at Christ the King Parish, is not only a place of silence, prayers and contemplation of the most important truth of our faith, in the "Noisy" Hollywood but the steps to heaven, where we will always venerate God in His Mercy.

Fr. George J. Bobowski
Director of The Lay Institute of Divine Mercy