



Divine Mercy Shrine of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles

**Now is the Time of Mercy
Ahora es el Tiempo de la Misericordia
Come, Receive My Mercy**

**Christ the King Roman Catholic Church
624 N. Rossmore Avenue
(323) 465-7605**

**ctkla.org
timeofmercy.com**



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
I warmly welcome you in Divine Mercy Shrine of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles at Christ the King Church.

This sacred shrine stands as a testament to the boundless compassion and love of our Lord, Jesus Christ, whose divine mercy knows no limits. In a world often plagued by turmoil, division, and suffering, the Divine Mercy Shrine offers us solace and hope. It is a sanctuary where the weary souls can find rest, where the broken-hearted can discover healing, and where the lost can find their way. It is a place of prayer, reflection, and renewal.

The message of Divine Mercy, as conveyed to us by Saint Faustina Kowalska and entrusted to the world by Saint Pope John Paul II, is simple yet profound. It reminds us that no matter the depths of our sins or the weight of our burdens, God's mercy is always there, waiting for us with open arms. As the words of the Lord to Saint Faustina echo through the ages, "I want to grant a complete pardon to the souls that will go to Confession and receive Holy Communion on the Feast of My Mercy." (Diary 1109)

Today, this shrine becomes a beacon of light, a symbol of the unfathomable love that God has for each one of us. It is a place where we can come and experience the transformative power of divine mercy. Here, we can seek forgiveness, find strength, and embrace the promise of eternal life.

Let us also remember that the Divine Mercy Shrine is not only a place of personal solace but a call to action. As we bask in the boundless love of God, we are reminded of our responsibility to extend that love and mercy to others. We are called to be instruments of God's compassion in a world that often hungers for it.

May this shrine serve as a catalyst for acts of kindness, forgiveness, and reconciliation. May it inspire us to reach out to those in need, to heal the wounds of division, and to build a more compassionate and just society.

May this Archdiocesan Divine Mercy Shrine become a sacred place for all who seek God's mercy, a place where lives are transformed, and souls are lifted.

Let us remember the words of Saint Faustina: "Jesus, I trust in You." May this trust in God's infinite mercy guide us as we embark on this journey together.

May God bless you and all who enter this sacred place.

Fr. Juan J. Ochoa
Rector
Divine Mercy Shrine
of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles

HISTORY OF THE DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION AT CHRIST THE KING CHURCH

The parish of Christ the King was founded in 1926 on its eponymous feast. The parish has promoted many Catholic methods of teaching and sanctifying, among them prayers to Divine Mercy.

Under the pastorship of Msgr. Alexander George, parishioners at Christ the King Church began celebrating and promoting the Divine Mercy devotion in 1997. Divine Mercy Sunday (2nd Sunday of Easter) began to be celebrated by the parishioners of Christ the King even before Pope John Paul II established this feast in 2000 for the universal Church.

Father George Bobowski of the diocese of Łomża, Poland, was entrusted by the bishops of Poland as international promoter of the Divine Mercy devotion. It was Father Bobowski who brought greater vigor to this devotion at Christ the King parish in year 2000.

In 2003, Father Antonio Cacciapuoti, Pastor of Christ the King, together with Fr. George J. Bobowski and parishioners of Christ the King parish, affirmed the value of the Divine Mercy devotion by obtaining a copy of the image of Divine Mercy promoted by Sister Faustina Kowalska. Christ the King Divine Mercy Ministry was established.

Since the installation, the image of the Divine Mercy has drawn parishioners and the wider community, not only to seek Divine Mercy but also to learn that they are called to be instruments of God's mercy to others.

In 2006, parishioners of Christ the King celebrated the first Divine Mercy Congress. It has become an annual celebration which brings a great variety of speakers from different parts of the world, and participants from different places of the U.S.

In 2006 Monthly Divine Mercy Formation, connected to the Faustinum Association from Krakow, World Shrine of Divine Mercy, started and continues until now.

For several years, parishioners at Christ the King recite the Divine Mercy chaplet every day before the morning Mass.

Every Sunday a pilgrimage image of the Divine Mercy goes to parishioner's house where the family is invited to pray together the Divine Mercy chaplet for a week. The Family are provided the Diary of Saint Faustina and other literature on Divine Mercy.

In addition, the diary of St. Faustina is provided to the family, and other literature on Divine Mercy.

In 2021, Fr. Juan Ochoa, pastor of Christ the King Church, requested to Archbishop Jose H. Gomez, to declare the Divine Mercy Shrine. On October 14, 2023, Archbishop Jose H. Gomez declared Divine Mercy Shrine of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles at Christ the King Church.



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

DECREE

In accord with the provisions of canon 1230 and the Statutes of the *Shrine of Divine Mercy of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles at Christ the King Parish*, as the Archbishop of Los Angeles in California, I hereby appoint

Reverend Juan J. Ochoa

to the office of **RECTOR** of the *Shrine of Divine Mercy of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles at Christ the King Parish*. As the first to be named to this office and in view of his being the Pastor of Christ the King Parish, this appointment is effective immediately.

Given at the offices of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles on 14th day of October in the year of Our Lord 2023, celebrating the Feast of the archangels, Saints Michael, Gabriel, and Raphael.

+ José H. Gomez

Most Reverend José H. Gomez
Archbishop of Los Angeles

Joseph Fox, O.P.

Rev. Joseph Fox, O.P., J.C.D., S.T.L.
Vicar for Canonical Services /Vice-Chancellor

Seal



Archdiocese of Los Angeles

Decree

Establishing the Shrine of Divine Mercy of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles at Christ the King Parish *In nomine Domini. Amen.*

Whereas in 1997 Msgr. Alexander George, as pastor, began celebrating and promoting the Divine Mercy devotion together with the parishioners of Christ the King parish.

Whereas Father George Bobowski of the diocese of Lomza, Poland, was entrusted by the bishops of Poland as international promoter of the Divine Mercy devotion. In this role Father Bobowski brought greater vigor to this devotion at Christ the King parish.

Whereas in 2003, Father Antonio Cacciapuoti, then Pastor of Christ the King, together with parishioners, affirmed the value of the Divine Mercy devotion by obtaining a copy of the image of Divine Mercy promoted by Sister Faustina Kowalska, a religious Sister of Our Lady of Mercy (Krakow, Poland), to proclaim more powerfully the healing power of God's care for humanity.

Whereas Dimitr Grozdew, a noted artist from Bialystok, Poland, was commissioned to produce an oil painting copy of the image, endowed primarily by the Norton Easton and Steve Chen families.

Whereas the image was presented at Vatican City by these benefactors, together with a group of parishioners and Father Cacciapuoti, to Pope Saint John Paul II during the General Audience on April 30, 2003. He then blessed and inscribed it with his initials.

Whereas on September 13, 2003, the image of Divine Mercy was installed in the southeast nave of the parish church by the Most Reverend Stanislaw Szymecki, Archbishop of Bialystok, Poland, where it has been celebrated and promoted since 1997.

Whereas the parishioners of Christ the King have celebrated an annual Divine Mercy Congress since 2006.

Whereas in 2021 the pastor of Christ the King parish, Reverend Juan J. Ochoa, presented the request to the Archbishop of Los Angeles, Most Reverend José H. Gomez, to establish the Shrine of Divine Mercy of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles at Christ the King parish.

Establishing the Shrine of Divine Mercy

Having considered the petition, as well as the pertinent laws of the Church and the facts and motives

**I decree and hereby establish
the Shrine of Divine Mercy of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles at Christ the King Parish**

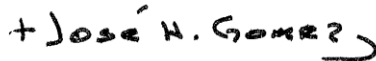
in accord with canons 1230 and 1232 §1 of the *Code of Canon Law*.

Furthermore, I encourage the faithful to make pilgrimages to this Shrine to draw ever closer to Jesus, by seeking and receiving his mercy and becoming missionaries of mercy.

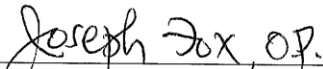
This shrine is to be governed by its statutes approved by the Archbishop of Los Angeles. Its statutes determine its purpose, the authority of its rector, and the ownership and administration of its goods (Can. 1232 §2).

Certain spiritual benefits will be granted to the faithful who make a pilgrimage to this Shrine and participate in its devotions, especially on Divine Mercy Sunday (Can. 1233) to obtain the plenary indulgence granted by a special favor by Pope Saint John Paul II on 13 June 2002.

Given at the offices of the Archdiocese of Los Angeles on the 14th day of October in the year of Our Lord 2023.



Most Reverend José H. Gomez
Archbishop of Los Angeles



Rev. Joseph Fox, O.P., J.C.D., S.T.L.
Vicar for Canonical Services / Vice-Chancellor

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