



Guided Children's Hour of Adoration Younger/Preschool Children (Divine Mercy Theme Overview)

Introduction

Exposition of the Eucharist - kneeling and Song: Come Adore

Opening Prayer

Focus on Jesus' true presence in the Eucharist in the Monstrance.

Repeat Fatima Prayer

Repeat St. Faustina line

St Faustina story

1 Decade of the Divine Mercy Chaplet

Prostration

Gospel: Matthew 15:29-31

Repeat Line

Repeat line

St. Faustina's Praises

Repeat line

Song: I Believe

Closing Prayer

Benediction and Divine Praises

Reposition of Blessed Sacrament and Song: Holy God We Praise Thy Name



Guided Eucharistic Adoration for Younger/Preschool Children Divine Mercy Theme

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[As we wait for the students to file in and get settled, play reflective music in the background to encourage silence and reflection.]

Leader:

Welcome the children to Eucharistic Adoration. Issue reminders as needed about Christ's true presence in the Eucharist, behavior expectations, posture, what to do in the silence, etc. See: *An Introduction for Children about Eucharistic Adoration for suggestions.*

Show the Image of Divine Mercy. This is a painting from a vision Jesus showed a nun, named Sister Faustina. Point out the red and white ray and the words at the bottom of the image. This Adoration will be based on Divine Mercy which we will learn more about throughout our time.

Be sure to remind the children where they should look and that Jesus, the Eucharist, the Blessed Sacrament is the white circle in the middle of the monstrance, the metal cross on the altar.

Kneelers down. Please kneel. Remember the kneelers stay down the whole time.

Take a moment to quiet yourself, to ready your mind and heart to spend time with our Lord. Take a few deep breathes and feel the Lord's peace fill you.

Father/Deacon will now expose Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament as we sing: Come Adore
(Repeat song in sections. Use hymnal for words.)

[During the opening song, the Blessed Sacrament is placed on the altar. The presider then kneels before the altar. If altar servers are available, the priest/deacon incenses the Blessed Sacrament with three double swings during the song. ¹]

Priest/Deacon:

Opening Prayer:

Let us pray

After a brief pause for silent prayer, the presiding minister continues:

Lord our God,
in this great sacrament
we come into the presence of Jesus Christ, your Son,
born of the Virgin Mary
and crucified for our salvation.
May we who declare our faith in this fountain of love and mercy
drink from it the water of everlasting life.
We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen. ²

Leader:

Close your eyes picture Jesus standing before you smiling looking you right in the eyes Jesus' eyes are full of immense love His arms are open wide in a greeting full of kindness, mercy, and delight in seeing you. (pause)

Now, open your eyes See Jesus your Savior your Messiah before you in the Monstrance. Feel His love and mercy, like rays, coming from the Blessed Sacrament and coming into your very own heart. (pause)

Blow Jesus a kiss.

Sit

¹ Strictly speaking, incensation is three double swings per phone call on Oct 24, 2014 to USCCB's Office of Divine Worship to clarify.

² No 224 Holy Communion & Worship of the Outside Mass

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We are going to say one of the Fatima prayers. Repeat after me: "O Most Holy Trinity, / I adore Thee! / My God! My God! / I love You in the Most Blessed Sacrament!"

(Fatima prayer taught by Our Lady of Fatima)

(Pause long enough so that children don't repeat after you anymore.)

Open your eyes. Blow Jesus a kiss.

Sit

St. Faustina called Jesus "Holy God". Look at Jesus in the Blessed Host and repeat after me: "Holy God, / I know you are here."

(Pause long enough so the children don't repeat after you any more.)

Tell about Saint Faustina

About 80 years ago, Jesus appeared many times to a young Polish nun named Sister Faustina who became Saint Faustina less than 20 years ago. Jesus brought her a message of His Divine Mercy which means "the loving kindness, compassion, . . . [God shows] to one who offends." ³ The message of mercy is that God loves us - all of us, no matter how great our sins. He wants us to know that his mercy is bigger - much bigger than our sins. Jesus wants us to call out to him with trust and receive His mercy and also to let His mercy flow through us to other people. Then we can share His joy. ⁴ Jesus told St. Faustina to trust in Him and do deeds of mercy while being cheerful and humble at the same time. She wrote her own thoughts as well as what Jesus spoke to her and the experiences she had. Six times, Sister Faustina had visions of Jesus with rays of mercy coming from Him. The image we saw at the start of Adoration.

The Sunday immediately following Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday. On this feast, Jesus pours out oceans and oceans of His graces

Jesus taught Saint Faustina the Chaplet of Divine Mercy which is a prayer for God's mercy. We are now going to pray one decade of The Chaplet of Divine Mercy which is normally prayed using rosary beads.

Know that the chaplet has several different prayers, but today we will be focusing on the prayers within a single decade. On the Our Father Beads, we say the Eternal Father

³ Glossary. Excerpts from the English translation of the Catechism of the Catholic Church for use in the United States of America Copyright © 1994, United States Catholic Conference, Inc. -- Libreria Editrice Vaticana. Used with Permission.

⁴ The Divine Mercy: Message and Devotion p. 23

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prayer. On the 10 Hail Mary Beads, we say the For the sake of His sorrowful Passion prayer. Just like the rosary, there is a leader and an all part. I will help you with all the parts

(On the Our Father Beads say the following)

Leader: Eternal Father, I offer You the Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Your dearly beloved Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ,
Now repeat after me: in atonement for our sins / and those of the whole world.

(On the 10 Hail Mary Beads say the following)

Leader: For the sake of His sorrowful Passion,
Now repeat after me: have mercy on us and on the whole world.

(pause)

Saint Faustina wrote in her diary: "I spend every free moment at the feet of the hidden God."⁵ That is what we are going now . . . spending time at the foot of our hidden God in the Eucharist. **(pause)**

Prostration - a couple of minutes

We are going to silently prostrate for a couple minutes. Jesus told St. Faustina, "**I am Love and Mercy itself.**"⁶ Feel yourself surrounded by Jesus' mercy - by the Hidden God's loving kindness and help.

Step the children thru prostration. Kneel on the kneeler, put your bottom on your seat behind you, place your hands on your face, and bring your face to the back of the pew in front of you.

OR

If the children are sitting on the in front of the altar in the church: Kneel, put your bottom on your heels, place your hands on your face, and bring your face down to your knees or the floor.

Sit

It is important for Jesus to know we love Him, so looking at Jesus, repeat after me: O Jesus, I love You! (Fatima prayer) - **(Silence) x 2 or 3 times**

⁵ Divine Mercy in My Soul: The Diary, 704

⁶ Divine Mercy in My Soul: The Diary, 1074

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(Pause long enough so the children don't repeat after you any more.)

On the image of the Divine Mercy are the words "Jesus, I Trust in You." It is so important to trust in God - so important that He had St. Faustina put the words of His image. Jesus told her the more we trust Him, the more mercy we receive. Let us look at our Hidden God, our Jesus in the Eucharist and tell him that we trust Him: "Jesus, / I Trust in You." x 2 or 3

(Pause long enough so the children don't repeat after you any more.)

Keeping your eyes upon Jesus in the Monstrance, we are going to say three lines of "St. Faustina's Praises of The Divine Mercy"⁷ (modified for age appropriate words for children)

Your response will be:

I trust in you. (practice with the children)

Divine Mercy, source of miracles and wonders . . .

Divine Mercy, you are with us through our whole life . . .

Divine Mercy, who our happiness and joy comes from . . .

(Pause long enough so the children don't repeat after you any more.)

Saint Faustina also called Jesus: "Living Host" Looking at Jesus, repeat after me: "O Living Host, / my one and only strength, / fountain of love and mercy"⁸

(Pause long enough so the children don't repeat after you any more.)

In a few minutes, our time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament is coming to a close. Take time now to talk to Jesus in your heart about anything from a desire, a request, a thanks, or anything that you want. (Silence)

Saint Faustina wrote in her diary about Jesus in the Blessed Host: "Oh, how happy I am to be a dwelling place for You, O Lord! My heart is a temple in which You dwell continually . . ." ⁹

⁷ Divine Mercy in My Soul: The Diary, 949

⁸ Divine Mercy in My Soul: The Diary, 223

⁹ Divine Mercy in My Soul: The Diary, 1392

This means that she loves that Jesus lives in her heart. We will sing a song now asking Jesus to dwell or live in our hearts.

Please kneel.

[The priest or deacon goes to the altar, genuflects, and kneels. ¹⁰]

Sing: I Believe (repeat after fashion)

Your blood, / Your body, /
Your soul, / and Your divinity, /
Jesus, / truly present /
In this most / Blessed Sacrament /

I believe, / I believe, / I believe it's true /
I believe, / I believe, / I believe it's You /

I believe, / I adore You, /
I hope, / and I love You, /
Jesus, / truly present /
In this most / Blessed Sacrament / ¹¹

[During the song, if altar servers are available, "the minister, while kneeling, incenses the sacrament" ¹² with three double swings. After the hymn is finished, "the minister rises and sings or says." ¹³]

Priest/Deacon:

Let us pray

After a brief pause for silent prayer, the presiding minister continues

Lord our God,
you have given us the true bread from heaven.
In the strength of this food
may we live always by your life
and rise in glory on the last day.

¹⁰ No 97 Holy Communion & Worship of the Outside Mass

¹¹ by Karl Kohlhasse

¹² No 97 Holy Communion & Worship of the Outside Mass

¹³ No 98 Holy Communion & Worship of the Outside Mass

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We ask this through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen. ¹⁴

Moment of silence

Leader:

Father/Deacon will now do Benediction and Divine Praises. Be sure to make the Sign of the Cross when you receive your blessing from Jesus during Benediction. (Make sure the children do the sign of the cross -- step them through it if needed)

[After the prayer the priest or deacon puts on the humeral veil, genuflects, and takes the monstrance (or ciborium). He then makes the sign of the cross over the people with the monstrance (or ciborium), in silence. ¹⁵ During the Eucharistic Blessing (actual Benediction), if altar servers are available and trained, one may incense the Eucharist while kneeling with three double swings, bowing before and after the incensation. ¹⁶ Another server may ring the bells three times, keeping pace with the blessing. ¹⁷]

Priest/Deacon: Benediction

After replacing the Monstrance on the altar, the priest/deacon kneels and leads those assembled in the Divine Praises. ¹⁸]

Say The Divine Praises repeating after the presider.

Blessed be God.

Blessed be His Holy Name.

Blessed be Jesus Christ, true God and true man.

Blessed be the name of Jesus.

Blessed be His Most Sacred Heart.

Blessed be His most Precious Blood.

Blessed be Jesus in the Most Holy Sacrament of the Altar.

Blessed be the Holy Spirit, the Paraclete.

Blessed be the great Mother of God, Mary most holy.

¹⁴ No 226 Holy Communion & Worship of the Outside Mass

¹⁵ No 99 Holy Communion & Worship of the Outside Mass

¹⁶ Strictly speaking, incensation is three double swings per phone call on Oct 24, 2014 to USCCB's Office of Divine Worship to clarify.

¹⁷ Ceremonies of the Modern Roman Rite no. 688

¹⁸ USCCB's Office of Divine Worship recommends presider's posture/position per phone call on August 8, 2014 when editor asked for clarification. USCCB's Office of Divine Worship recommends saying Divine Praises between Benediction and Reposition. Also according to how Pope Benedict and Pope Francis preside at Holy Hours.

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Blessed be her holy and Immaculate Conception.
 Blessed be her glorious Assumption.
 Blessed be the name of Mary, Virgin and Mother.
 Blessed be Saint Joseph, her most chaste spouse.
 Blessed be God in His angels and in His Saints.

The priest/deacon reposes the Blessed Sacrament and Song: Holy God, We Praise Thy Name in repeat after me fashion. (You might not need or want to do both verses.)

Holy God we praise Thy name; / Lord of all we bow before Thee; /
 All on earth Thy scepter claim; / All in heaven above adore Thee. / Infinite Thy
 vast domain, / Everlasting is Thy reign! /
 Infinite Thy vast domain, / Everlasting is Thy reign! /

Hark, the loud celestial hymn; / Angel choirs above are rising; /
 Cherubim and Seraphim, / In unceasing chorus praising, /
 Fill the heavens with sweet accord: / Holy, holy, holy, Lord! /
 Fill the heavens with sweet accord: / Holy, holy, holy, Lord! /

Extra

[Sometimes you will get thru the whole set of plans, sometimes you won't. Here are some extra prayers and reflections in case you get done early. Each group and each session will flow a little different dependent on the age of the children, how long you pause, and where God leads you that particular time.]

Repeat after me, a line from Saint Faustina's Diary:

"Thank You, O Lord, for creating me"¹⁹

Jesus told Saint Faustina "**I demand from you deeds of mercy which are to arise out of love for me.**" He tells her that three ways of mercy are by your deeds, words, and prayers.²⁰

Think of some ways you can show mercy to others this week. Again, mercy means showing others loving kindness and compassion. Love that helps others feel better. What deed or action can you do? . . . What words can you say to someone sad or mad? . . . Who can you pray for? . . . (Silence)

✠ A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to John:

Response: *Glory to You O Lord*

"but one soldier thrust his lance into his side, and immediately blood and water flowed out. An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true; he knows that he is speaking the truth, so that you also may [come to] believe."

John 19:34-35

The Gospel of the Lord.

Response: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Continue to following reflection.

The blood and water flowing from the side of Christ can also be seen in the Divine Mercy image seen by St. Faustina that I showed you at the beginning of Adoration. The rays in the image represent Blood and Water as in the blood and water that flowed from his side

¹⁹ Divine Mercy in My Soul: The Diary, 1286

²⁰ Divine Mercy in My Soul: The Diary, 742

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when He had a sword pierce Him . . . pierce His Heart when He was crucified.

Jesus told St. Faustina that His mercy comes from His Heart - He calls it the fountain of His Mercy. His specific words to St. Faustina are, "**On the cross, the fountain of My mercy was opened wide by the lance for all souls - no one have I excluded!**" (1182) and also He said that "**I let my Sacred Heart be pierced with a lance, thus opening wide the source of mercy for you.**" ²¹

(a moment of silence)

Saint Faustina prayed for the souls of sinner a lot! In your heart, ask Jesus for His mercy on the souls of the sinners. (silence)

In Mass, we say a prayer that asks for God's mercy. So repeat after me.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Repeat after me, a few lines from Saint Faustina's Diary:

"Thank You, O God, for all the graces
Which unceasingly You lavish upon me,
Graces which enlighten me with the brilliance of the sun,
For by them You show me the sure way." ²²

²¹ Divine Mercy in My Soul: The Diary, 1485

²² Divine Mercy in My Soul: The Diary, 1286

References

Books:

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Ceremonies of the Modern Roman Rite, Revised Edition, Peter J. Elliott, © Ignatius Press; San Francisco, 2005. All rights reserved.

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Music:

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Come Adore: Gather: Comprehensive, Chicago: GIA Publications, Inc. 1994. #888. Text by Thomas Aquinas.

I Believe: Words and Music for Eucharistic Adoration by Karl Kohlhasse, 2008, www.k4communications.com. Song/words used with permission by Karl Kohlhasse. Permission is granted to copy the song's words for use of the worship aide/booklet for Adoration. (It can be heard on his website <http://www.k4communications.com/karl/recordings.html> under the album title, "Bread Of Life: Eucharistic Reflections")

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name: Gather: Comprehensive, Chicago: GIA Publications, Inc. 1994. #524.

