

SUNDAY OF DIVINE MERCY



"We are the Missionaries of Divine Mercy sent by the compassionate Father to distribute the treasures of His mercy"

(St. John Eudes, To the Priests of the Seminary at Coutances, May 15, 1653)

UNIT OF EUDIST SPIRITUALITY

Confiteantur Domino misericordiae ejus: et mirabilia ejus filiis hominum (Ps 106, 8). « May all the mercies shown by the Lord to the children of men, and all the wonders He has done for them, glorify Him forever .»

O.C. II, 177

THE DIVINE MERCY OF GOD

It may be said that the mercy of the Lord is great, and even greater in all ways, than any of the other attributes of God.

For the effects of His mercy surpass those of the power, the wisdom, the justice and all the other divine perfections that are known in this world. As Saint Bonaventure explains in his words in Psalm 50: *Secundum magnam misericordiam tuam*: « The Lord is merciful when He forgives; even more merciful when He forgives endlessly, and most merciful when He glorifies.»

How great is the forgiveness of sins!

- ✚ Great, firstly, on behalf of God when He forgives graciously the infinite dishonor that is inflicted by the sinner on His Divine Majesty.
- ✚ Secondly, great on part of the penitent who, when he is plunged by his sins into the abyss of an infinite misfortune, is redeemed by the very gentle hand of the mercy of his Lord.
- ✚ Thirdly, great by the inestimable gift offered to the sinner on part of the Divine Bounty, who not only

remits his sins but raises him to the rank of friend and child of God.

✚ Fourthly, great by the way we are reconciled with our



Lord. He is the one who first has bestowed His love upon us, He has invited us, has urged us and called us to conversion. As Denys the Areopagite has written: «*This*

God of Love reaches out to us with infinite love when we go astray and prays us not to separate from Him when He reaches out to us with great eagerness. »

✚ Fifthly, great by way of many other effects of His Holy mercy, for it delivers the sinner from damnation, from the eternal punishment of the senses, from the guilt of sin and all other wrongs that accompany it, and leads him to Heaven to let him reign forever with God.