

SIMPLE STEPS

Here is a list of simple steps that you can use in your parish, school, or ministry to help prepare for and celebrate the Sunday of Divine Mercy. These steps offer ideas on how to use the provided resources. Each step may not apply to your specific circumstance, but most can be adapted to suit the needs of your community.

1. Share the message of mercy with those suffering after abortion.

Many dioceses offer help for those who are suffering spiritually, mentally, or emotionally after participation in abortion. Ask your diocesan Respect Life director whether your diocese has Project Rachel (or an otherwise named abortion healing ministry), and if so, whether they can give you a flyer directing people how to seek that help. (A flyer with individual pull-off tabs featuring the contact information of the ministry is best.)

Hang copies of the flyer in various places around your parish, such as in the vestibule or on a bulletin board. Also, post copies of the flyer in restrooms, especially on the inside of the stall doors in both women's and men's restrooms. Hanging the flyer in discreet places like restrooms allows those interested to privately pull a tab from the flyer. Tear off two or three of the tabs before hanging the flyer to encourage people to take one of the tabs.

2. Highlight the Sunday of Divine Mercy.

The Divine Mercy Novena begins on Good Friday. Print the sample announcement for the novena in your bulletin the weekend of Palm Sunday. The weekend of the Sunday of Divine Mercy, use one of the sample announcements about healing after abortion. Consider also using the sample announcements in your newsletters and on your website and social media accounts.

We would love to see how you and your family, parish, or school participate!

Email us at prolife@uscgb.org or tag us on Facebook ([@uscgbrespectlife](https://www.facebook.com/uscgbrespectlife)) or Twitter ([@uscgbprolife](https://twitter.com/uscgbprolife) and [@ProjectRachel](https://twitter.com/ProjectRachel)).

Many of those suffering after abortion inaccurately believe that it is “the unforgivable sin.” Through our efforts and the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, may they come to know that God forgives every sin of those who are sorry, including the sin of abortion.

3. Preach on God's unending mercy the weekend of the Sunday of Divine Mercy.

Sample homily suggestions are provided to aid priests and deacons in preaching on God's desire to forgive our sins and heal our hearts. “General Homily Considerations Regarding Healing after Abortion” are also accessible from respectlife.org/action-guides.

4. Pray for healing during the Prayer of the Faithful.

Sample intercessions are provided for use in the Prayer of the Faithful the weekend of the Sunday of Divine Mercy. Where appropriate, schools could use these intercessions to observe this great Feast of Mercy by praying together at the beginning of class. Families could include these intercessions in their regular prayers in the morning, evening, or before or after a family meal.

5. Offer a Prayer Service for Forgiveness and Healing.

Contact your diocesan Respect Life director about the possibility of hosting a Prayer Service for Forgiveness and Healing at your parish on or close to the celebration of the Sunday of Divine Mercy. Promote the prayer service to parishioners through bulletin and pulpit announcements at Sunday Mass. If your parish already holds a special event for the Sunday of Divine Mercy, you could integrate the prayer service as part of it. Action steps for hosting a prayer service are available at the end of this action guide.

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