

*Saint of the Week*  
*Divine Mercy Sunday*  
Feast Day: October 5  
Lived from 1905 – 1938

Although we celebrate this saint's Feast Day on October 5th (the date she died), because her life is so connected with Divine Mercy, we will feature her on Divine Mercy Sunday—which is celebrated the Sunday after Easter.

Born the 3rd of 10 children, in what is now west-central Poland, our saint of the week came from a poor yet religious family. She recognized at an early age a deep devotion to the Eucharist (aka the Blessed Sacrament).

To help with family expenses, she worked as a housekeeper in 3 separate cities. After completing her schooling, she went to Warsaw to join a convent but was turned away by several different convents because of her age and financial situation.

Finally, at the age of 20, she was allowed to join the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in 1925, where she worked as a cook, gardener and porter.

Her visions of Jesus began in 1924, which led some to doubt her sanity. After successfully being declared sane, one of her confessors encouraged her to keep a diary which she titled: *Divine Mercy in My Soul*, which is used today as an inspirational resource to better understand mercy and forgiveness as taught by her conversations with Jesus.

On February 22, 1931, Jesus presented himself to her as the “King of Divine Mercy” wearing a white garment with red and pale rays coming from his heart. After a while, Jesus instructed her to paint an image according to what she saw and include the words “Jesus, I trust in You.” Around the same time, our saint began to show signs of a chronic sickness.

Good Friday, April 19, 1935, Jesus told her he wanted the Divine Mercy image to be publically honored which led to her creation of holy cards and the promotion of the Divine Mercy image.

She was 33 years old when she died. Her body rests at the Basilica of Divine Mercy in Krakow, Poland. Saint Pope John Paul II canonized her April 30, 2000. She is known as the patron saint of Divine Mercy.

