

REGIONAL NORTH AMERICAN CONGRESS ON MERCY *Divine Mercy: Fullness of the Faith* April 24-26, 2015 Cathedral of Christ the Light • Oakland, California



"Let the greatest sinners place their trust in My mercy. They have the right before others to trust in the abyss of My mercy. My daughter, write about My mercy towards tormented souls. Souls that make an appeal to My mercy delight Me. To such souls I grant even more graces than they ask. I cannot punish even the greatest sinner if he makes an appeal to My compassion, but on the contrary, I justify him in My unfathomable and inscrutable mercy. Write: before I come as a just judge, I first open wide the door of My mercy. He who refuses to pass through the door of My mercy must pass through the door of My justice..."

- (Jesus to St. Faustina, *Diary*, 1146)

What is mercy if not the boundless love of God, who confronted with human sin, restrains the sentiment of severe justice and, allowing Himself to be moved by the wretchedness of His creatures, spurs Himself to the total gift of self, in the Son's cross? ....Who can say that he is free from sin and does not need God's mercy? As people of this restless time of ours, wavering between the emptiness of self-exaltation and the humiliation of despair, we have a greater need than ever for a regenerating experience of mercy.

— (St. John Paul II, April 10, 1994)

Jesus' attitude is striking: we do not hear the words of scorn, we do not hear words of condemnation, but only words of love, of mercy, which are an invitation to conversation. "Neither do I condemn you; go, and do not sin again."

...God's face is the face of a Merciful Father who is always patient. ...That is His mercy. ...He understands us, He waits for us, He does not tire of forgiving us if we are able to return to Him with a contrite heart. "Great is God's mercy."

— (Pope Francis: Homily, March 17, 2013)





How many souls have been consoled by the prayer Jesus, I trust in You,' which Providence intimated through Sr. Faustina! Let us pray to the Lord that our heart may be merciful so that we feel all the sufferings of our neighbors. Let us begin to trust in the most merciful Heart of Jesus. Then we can bear all our own sufferings to the merciful Lord

— (Cardinal Christoph Schönborn, NACOM, Nov. 14 2009, Washington, D.C.)

Marie Romagnano

MICHAEL C. BARBER, S.J. BISHOP OF OAKLAND



2121 HARRISON STREET, Oakland, CA 94612 510.267.8316

March 19, 2015 Solemnity of Saint Joseph

To the faithful attending the North American Congress on Mercy at the Cathedral of Christ the Light, Oakland – California April 24-26, 2015

My dear brother and sisters,

On behalf of the priests, religious men and women and all the faithful of our Diocese, it is my honor and pleasure to extend our warmest welcome to each one of you.

As we gather to celebrate God's infinite mercy, revealed to us by His Only Begotten Son, Risen from the dead, I would like to invite you to take this opportunity not only to reflect on the many graces we have received from His mercy, but also on the fact that we are all called to be instruments of that same mercy in the lives of others.

Mercy implies, in many ways, reaching out. That is exactly what God the Father did: to show us his mercy, he sent us His most precious treasure, His Son, who became man to share our sufferings and hopes, our struggles and joys. Christ died and rose from the dead for you and for me. God reached out to the extremes of our human existence to redeem us. Moreover, he continues reaching out to us through the Sacraments, especially the Eucharist, making His mercy present and available for all those who believe.

Moreover, God is calling us to be instruments of that same mercy. And that is an essential part of our faith. The corporal and spiritual works of mercy that have been taught in our Catechesis generation after generation are the concrete expressions of that mercy flowing from God to us, and, through us, to the lives of those brothers and sisters most in need.

When we, Christians, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, bury the dead, counsel the doubtful, forgive offenses, comfort the afflicted, pray for the living and the dead, or practice any other work of mercy, we can say that we are not just doing philanthropy, we are changing the world through God's love and mercy. Pope Francis pointed out that during his first Angelus, on March 2013: "Mercy changes the world. A bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just. We need to understand God's mercy well..."

I pray that this Congress will help us all to be agents of the true mercy of God "to the end of time".

+ michael Basher s.J.

The Most Reverend Michael C. Barber, SJ Bishop of Oakland

For the greater glory of God



Vienna, April 2, 2015

KARDINAL DR. CHRISTOPH SCHÖNBORN ERZBISCHOF VON WIEN

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, Dear participants of the Regional North American Congress on Mercy,

How prophetic were the words of St. John Paul II when he spoke before the vast crowd gathered in Krakow:

"How greatly today's world needs God's mercy! In every continent, from the depth of human suffering, a cry for mercy seems to rise up. Where hatred and the thirst for revenge dominate, where war brings suffering and death to the innocent, there the grace of mercy is needed in order to settle human minds and hearts and to bring about peace. Wherever, respect for life and human dignity are lacking, there is need of God's merciful love, in whose light we see the inexpressible value of every human being. Mercy is needed in order to ensure that every injustice in the world will come to an end in the splendor of truth" (John Paul II, Homily, Krakow, 17 August 2002).

"The Church of our time ... must become more motivated and profoundly conscious of the need to bear witness in her whole mission to God's mercy" (cf. DM 12). The Church should announce the truth (the true face of God and the true face of man), in a constant articulation to mercy and justice (cf. 1 Co 8: 1-3). Only merciful love is credible and without it, one cannot tell the truth about God without betraying Him. In this way, every disposition of the Church would pass through the demanding filter of a merciful attitude. Becoming ever more perfect in mercy would always be the Church's goal. The encounter with the God of Mercy becomes our mission. The encounter with the merciful Jesus converts the hearts and makes them missionary in their turn (*kerygma*). By focusing on these encounters the pastoral care of the Church (*diakonia*) can be transformed. It is mercy that opens the way to a true relationship with God in the Spirit. It is mercy that leads us to live a more authentic communion with each other.

My wish and prayer is that this Apostolic Congress on Mercy may help Christians rediscover in themselves more deeply their missionary identity as prophets of mercy (cf. Hos. 6: 6), as priests of mercy (cf. Rom. 12: l; Heb. 2: 17) and as kings of mercy through their Baptism and the Eucharist.

+ Chintyle Card. Lhonborn



### **REGIONAL NORTH AMERICAN CONGRESS ON MERCY**

**DIVINE MERCY: FULLNESS OF THE FAITH** 

April 24-26, 2015 Cathedral of Christ the Light Oakland, California

NACOM SCHEDULE: FRIDAY, APRIL 24TH, 2015

#### (2:00-9:00PM)

2:00-3:00 pm	Registration and	refreshments	(Event	Center –	main	hall	and	atrium)	)
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- **3:00-3:20 pm** Chaplet of Divine Mercy sung by Annie Karto (Cathedral)
- **3:30-4:30 pm** Exposition of Blessed Sacrament with Adoration & Confessions (Cathedral)
- **4:45-5:45 pm General Session #1** Fr. Patrice Chocholski, WACOM Vice-President: *Insights from the World Mercy Congresses* (Cathedral)
- **6:00-7:00 pm** Holy Mass; Most Reverend Michael Barber, SJ main celebrant and homilist

(Cathedral)

**7:15-9:00 pm** Reception w/ light dinner; Opening remarks by Fr. Kazimierz Chwalek, MIC, NACOM Vice-Coordinator (Lakeside plaza, outside)

#### SATURDAY, APRIL 25TH, 2015 (7:00AM-5:30PM & 7:00-9:00PM)

7:00-9:00 am Registration & Continental Breakfast (Event Center – hall and atrium)
8:00-9:00 am Worship music with Annie Karto and Choir (Cathedral)

- **9:00-10:00 am General Session #2** Zachary King: *My Journey from Satanic High Wizard to Catholic Evangelist* (Cathedral)
- **10:15-11:20 am**Holy Mass and Worship Music;Fr. George Mockel—celebrant & homilist(Cathedral)

#### 11:30am-12:25 pm Break-out Sessions #1

1) Sr. Conf	ida: The Unfettered Heart	(Cathedral)
2) Fr. Kaz	Chwalek, MIC: St. John Paul II and Divine Mercy	(Room A-B)
3) Fr. Carl	Arcosa: Living the Divine Mercy in your Parish	(Room C)
4) Dr. Brya	n Thatcher: Divine Mercy — A Way of Life and Prayer	(Room D-E)
12:30-1:30 pm	Catered Boxed Lunch (Lakeside Plaza; any outdoor s	eating area)
1:45-2:45 pm	<b>General Session #3</b> — Fr. Don Calloway, MIC: <i>Our La Trinitarian Masterpiece of Mercy</i>	<i>dy, the</i> (Cathedral)
3:00-3:20 pm	Chaplet of Divine Mercy sung by Annie Karto	(Cathedral)
3:30-4:25 pm	<b>General Session #4</b> — Fr. Seraphim Michalenko, MIC <i>Mercy, the Chaplet and the Eucharist</i>	: <i>Divine</i> (Cathedral)

#### (4:30-7:00 pm—Leave Cathedral free for regularly scheduled Saturday Vigil Mass)

4:30-5:30 pm	Break-out Sessions #2			
1) Fr. Dor	n Calloway, MIC: Becoming a Vessel of Mercy by Imitatin	<i>ng Mary</i> (Cathedral)		
2) Fr. Ant	hony Gramlich, MIC: Divine Mercy and the Sacraments	(Room A-B)		
3) Fr. Carl	Arcosa: Living the Divine Mercy in your Parish	(Room C)		
4) Zachary King: How Can Christians Battle against Satanism and Occult Practices?				
		(Room D-E)		
5:30-7:00 pm	Dinner — On your own			
7:00-7:50 pm	General Session #5 — Jesse Romero: Divine Mercy and	nd the Family (Cathedral)		
8:00-9:00 pm	<b>General Session #6</b> — Dave and Joan Maroney: <i>Tell about My Mercy</i> w/ Adoration and Benediction	All Souls		
		(Cathedral)		

#### SUNDAY, APRIL 26TH, 2015 (8:00AM-3:45PM)

8:00-9:00 am	Light breakfast	(Event Center atrium)			
9:00-9:50 am	Break-out Sessions #3				
1) Zachary King: How Can Christians Battle against Satanism and					
Occult i	Practices?	(Parish Hall)			
2) Sr. Nazareta: Living Faith—Foundation for Practicing Christian Mercy					
		(Room A-B)			
3) Dr. Brya	an Thatcher: Sharing Divine Mercy with the	Sick and the Dying			
		(Room C)			

4) Fr. Seraphim Michalenko, MIC: *St. Faustina — A Postulator's View* (Room D-E)

**10:00-11:15 am**Holy Mass; Most Reverend Robert Finn — main celebrant<br/>and homilist(Cathedral)

11:30am-12:25 pm Break-out Sessions #4

1) Jesse Romero: David & Bathsheba's Sin, God's Divine Mercy (Parish Hall)

- 2) Fr. Anthony Gramlich, MIC: *Parables of Divine Mercy* (Room A-B)
- 3) Dave & Joan Maroney: *Divine Mercy for America: Hope for our Country and World* (Room C-D-E)
- **12:30-1:50pm** Hot Buffet Lunch (Lakeside Plaza, outside)

## (\*Note: After lunch on Sunday, all afternoon events will take place in the combined rooms A-E of the Events Center)

- **2:00-2:50 pm** Divine Mercy Q & A Panel: Fr. Seraphim Michalenko, MIC; Fr. Kaz Chwalek, MIC; Dr. Bryan Thatcher; and Fr. Anthony Gramlich, MIC
- 3:00-3:20 pm Chaplet of Divine Mercy sung by Annie Karto
- 3:20-3:45 pm Closing Remarks and Final Blessing by Fr. Kaz Chwalek, MIC



Processing is the main celebrant for the concluding Mass, Cardinal Ruben Salazar Gomez, Archbishop of Bogota, Columbia, accompanied by Cardinal Francisco Javier Errázuriz Ossa, Archbishop Emeritus of Santiago, Chile, and a personal representative of the Holy Father Pope Francis, and, Cardinal Christoph Schönborn, Archbishop of Vienna, the President of WACOM.

#### **REFLECTIONS FROM WACOM III — BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA, AUGUST 2014**

Last August over 1,200 Catholic pilgrims from 30 countries traveled to Bogotá, Colombia for WACOM III, celebrating two firsts: the first WACOM in South America and the first South American pope. Cardinal Schönborn, WACOM president, and Cardinal Sálazar, archbishop of Bogotá and WACOM III host, attended with many cardinals and bishops, as well as hundreds of priests from every continent. Participants shared profoundly joyful experiences as Divine Mercy apostles and listened to inspiring speakers and performers. Colombian culture was well represented in its cuisine and music, and excursions that participants made to parishes across Bogotá were even more impactful. The deep poverty seen on these excursions was accompanied by the incredible hospitality and friendliness for which Colombians are well known; their joy was infectious, rendering witness to God's mercy among even His poorest children.

Fr. Kazimierz Chwalek, MIC, Vice-Coordinator of NACOM, commented: "Many at this Congress testified to their personal conversion. By faith, hope, and love in Christ, they were able to forgive the many atrocities they had experienced. They conquered evil with Christ's power of love. They imbued into their lives the healing power of God's mercy, [and were] no longer victims, but victors in Christ as men and women of Gospel joy.."

Cardinal Sálazar gave what Fr. Seraphim Michalenko, MIC considered one of the finest, most powerful talks on Divine Mercy he had ever heard, entitled "Colombia is Capable of Mercy". Some brief excerpts follow:

...Man is capable of God precisely thanks to the incarnation of Christ, that He took on in His own flesh every possible type of human suffering. It is a mystery. It is madness, as Saint Paul says: "Him who did not know sin, God made Him

sin" when He took upon Himself the entire reality of sin itself in order to be able to destroy it and give to man the possibility of beginning to live a new life, of being resurrected with Him.

I am grateful that God has cast His eyes upon the extreme suffering that we Colombians have endured, that with Love He has embraced our still-raw wounds, by choosing us as hosts of the III World Apostolic Congress on Mercy. It is a sign that brings us a message of Hope and tells us that our suffering has not been useless, it has not been in vain.

All of our suffering—past, present and future—and also all of our sins, today we leave them all at the foot of the Cross, we unite them to the suffering of Christ, which is to say the suffering of God with us and for our sake. Only in this way does it acquire all of its redemptive and salvific power, when God takes it, through the mediation of Christ, His Son made man. He accepts our offering and takes it on (Himself). In that moment, the pain through Love acquires all of its redemptive power, as a pain transformed by Grace into Love-Mercy. It is not suffering itself that redeems us, but rather Love. A suffering that we offer today for all those who have caused us so much pain, those who have spilled the blood of their brothers, so that He may transform them and have compassion on their hearts of stone as well as on our own hearts, hardened by decades of violence.

#### MEET THE SPEAKERS:



Bishop Michael Barber, SJ hails from the Bay Area, CA. A Jesuit since 1973, he was ordained to the priesthood in San Francisco in 1985 and ordained Bishop and installed

as the Oakland Ordinary in May, 2013. He studied in Washington State, in Rome and at Oxford University, England. Commissioned as a Naval Reserve Officer in 1991, he achieved the rank of Captain in 2012. Besides being an active Chaplain for the Navy and Marines around the world, Bp. Barber has served as a seminary professor and Director of Spiritual Formation at St. Patrick's seminary in Menlo Park and St. John's seminary in Boston.



Most Reverend Robert W. Finn, DD, Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph (Mo.), serves as chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Task Force on the Life and Dignity of the Human Person and as con-

sultant to both the Pro-Life Secretariat and the Bishops' Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development. As a priest in St. Louis, he was involved in planning the first archdiocesan celebrations of Divine Mercy. In his diocese, he has encouraged The Divine Mercy devotion. Shortly after becoming ordinary, he established the Diocesan Shrine to The Divine Mercy and St. Faustina.



A member of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception since 2006, Fr. Chris M. Alar, MIC, is the current "Father Joseph" Director of the Association of Marian Helpers. He has a B.S. in Industrial Engineering

and an MBA from the University of Michigan. He worked for several years at a Fortune 500 company, then began a consulting company in Charlotte. After answering the Lord's call, he attended Franciscan University in Steubenville, OH, and earned his M. Div. degree from Holy Apostles Seminary in Cromwell, CT. Following the tradition and mission of the religious community entrusted with spreading the message and devotion of Divine Mercy, Fr. Chris has preached at well over 100 parishes to date. Currently, he lives and works on Eden Hill in Stockbridge, MA, home of the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy.



A native of the Philippines, **Fr. Carl Arcosa** studied in a Manial seminary before transferring to St. Patrick's seminary in Menlo Park. He was ordained to the priesthood in May, 2007. A multilingual priest, Fr. Carl has served as a

parochial vicar in two parishes in the Oakland diocese, and he is now the Pastor of Church of the Good Shepherd in Pittsburg, CA. In addition, he holds the position of Divine Mercy Coordinator for the Diocese of Oakland.



A Catholic convert **Fr. Donald Calloway, MIC** is a member of the Congregation of Marians of the Immaculate Conception. A priest since 2002 he received his M. Div. and S.T.B. degrees from the

Dominican House of Studies in Washington, DC and his S.T.L. in Mariology from the International Marian Research Institute in He currently serves as Provincial Vicar and Vocations Director and lives in Steubenville, OH. Fr. Don travels around the world giving spiritual talks and retreats, and he is also the author of *Purest of all Lilies: The Virgin Mary in the Spirituality of St. Faustina, No Turning Back: A Witness to Mercy, Under the Mantle, Marian Gems: Daily Wisdom on Our Lady,* and his latest book is entitled *Rosary Gems: Daily Wisdom on the Holy Rosary.* 

**Fr. Kazimierz Chwalek, MIC**, is Provincial Superior for the Mary, Mother of Mercy



Province of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception and Vice-Coordinator of the North American Congress on Mercy. A member of the Marian Fathers since 1980, he worked on the first Polish edition of

St. Faustina's Diary and assisted with its English publication. He has served as Director of Evangelization and Development and of the Association of Marian Helpers. He worked in seminary formation for almost 12 years. His love for St. John Paul II led him to edit the English edition of *The Making of the Pope* of the Millennium: Kalendarium of the life of Karol Wojtyla, a compendium of primary sources chronicling the life and activities of Cardinal Wojtyla.



Fr. Patrice Chocholski,

a priest for the Diocese of Lyon, France, currently serves as Rector of the Basilica of Ars. He is a well-known lecturer and theologian on the Divine Mercy message

and author of two books focusing on God's

mercy: At the Source of Mercy – a Christian and Interreligious Approach and Pray Fifteen Days with St. Faustina. Fr. Patrice is founder of the "Fountains of Mercy" project, bringing together Jewish and Muslim leaders in France to share their belief in the mercy of God. He has served as Secretary General of the World Apostolic Congress on Mercy in an outstanding manner under ChristophCardinal Schönborn, WACOM President.



**Sr. M. Confida Gilera, OLM** was born in the Philippines. She entered the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy in 2006. Her current assignment is in the Boston community. She

spreads the message of mercy in prisons, care facilities, parishes, and through spiritual retreats and conferences. She helps distribute Divine Mercy materials through the Sisters' online store.



**Fr. Anthony Gramlich, MIC**, a priest of the Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception, is currently Rector of the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy in Stockbridge, MA. He is also

local Superior of the Marian Fathers, Diocesan Coordinator of the Charismatic Movement, and preacher of parish missions. His love for the unborn has led him to assist as a chaplain for Rachel's Vineyard retreats.



As an award-winning Catholic singer-songwriter and inspirational speaker, **Annie Karto** hopes to stir the flame in the Catholic Church through the power of God's gift of music. The healing mercy of God is the

heart of her music ministry, along with singing of the beautiful sacraments of the Church, and honoring the Blessed Mother. Annie personally experienced God's Divine Mercy 25 years ago, and was given the penance to spread the message of His mercy for the rest of her life. Annie has been invited to sing and speak at many conferences throughout the country for 15 years. She and her husband, Dave have 4 children and 9 grandchildren.



Although **Zachary King** grew up Baptist, he began practicing magic at age 10, joined a satanic coven at age 13, and had broken all 10 Commandments by age 15. Working his way up to High

Wizard in his coven, he actively pushed Satan's agenda through ritualistic abortions and the break-up of churches. But in January 2008, while working at a mall jewelry kiosk, Zachary experienced Our Blessed Mother, which changed his life. Through the Miraculous Medal, Zachary experienced a peace surpassing all understanding—Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Our Lady's love rescued Zachary from hell, bringing him to the Heart of Her Son. In May 2008 (Mary's month), he entered the Catholic Church! After 26 years in the occult, Zachary is now a warrior for Christ, sharing his knowledge to protect God's people. His testimony proves how great God's mercy & forgiveness truly are, and above all, the depth of His love!



**Sr. Nazareta Maleta, OLM**, a perpetually professed sister of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, is from Poland. In the Congregation she worked in the "Faustinum" Association

ministering to English-speaking pilgrims at the Shrine of Divine Mercy. Afterwards she worked as a tutor in the Sisters' institute for wayward girls in Cracow. Currently she serves in the Congregation's community in Boston, MA.



A world-renowned expert on the message of the Divine Mercy, **Fr. Seraphim Michalenko, MIC** was also the Vice-Postulator for the canonization cause of St. Faustina Kowalska. He

served as "Father Joseph" – the Director of the Association of Marian Helpers, and as Rector of the National Shrine of the Divine Mercy. He was instrumental in the publication of St. Faustina's Diary in its various language versions, starting with the Polish original. He was a firsthand witness of the miracle attributed to St. Faustina's intercession that opened the way for her beatification in 1993, and he coordinated efforts that led to approval of the second miracle and her canonization in 2002.



Dave and Joan Maroney are founders and directors of Mother of Mercy Messengers (MOMM), an apostolate of the Marian Fathers.

MOMM brings the Divine Mercy message and devotion into parishes, schools and organizations across the country through a variety of unique and dramatic presentations. MOMM's prayerful events and programs are enriching, inspiring, and educational for hearts and souls of all ages. They have produced two DVDs: *Tell All Souls About My Mercy and Divine Mercy for Young Hearts.* Likewise responding to the spiritual needs of our times Joan and Dave offer a unique program called Divine Mercy for America.



Jesse Romero is a bilingual Catholic evangelist with an apostolate called "On Fire Evangelization" wherein he speaks on a wide variety of apologetics and Catholic family and culture topics. A

retired Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff, Jesse married his wife Anita in 1983, and they live in the Los Angeles area and have three children. He has been preaching for more than 15 years, and he has co-hosted a daily show on Immaculate Heart Radio with Terry Barber for 10 years and another show, "Reasons for Faith," on EWTN Radio. Jesse is also a writer and the author of three books: Our Mouths Were Filled with Laughter, La Verdad Te Hará Libre and Catholics Wake Up. His motto is "Love God, Save Souls, Slay Error!"



Dr. Bryan Thatcher, MD, is the founder and director of Eucharistic Apostles of The Divine Mercy (EADM), an international apostolate of the Marians Fathers based in Florida. EADM offers group

spiritual formation in the Divine Mercy message, assists the poor and the dying. Dr. Thatcher has authored several Formation Manuals and booklets for its cenacle members living in the world.

# THANK YOU!

On behalf of the Regional NACOM organizers, we would like to express our deepest appreciation to the following people and organizations that have made this wonderful weekend of mercy possible:

First and foremost, we thank His Excellency Michael Barber, SJ, Bishop of Oakland, CA, and Fr. Alexander Castillo, his secretary, as well as Fr. Carl Arcosa, Divine Mercy Coordinator for the Diocese of Oakland. All of you have been tremendous hosts for this regional North American Congress on Mercy, and we truly appreciate your invitation to the Marian Fatehers of the Immaculate Conception to be your co-hosts for this event at the cathedral.

Our special appreciation goes to His Excellency Robert Finn, Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph, MO, for his presence and his pastoral support. We also thank Rev. Jay Matthews, Monica Salcedo, and the entire staff of the Cathedral of Christ the Light; Very Reverend George Mockel, Vicar General of the Diocese of Oakland; John Erick Villa and all of the Oakland seminarians; the members of the Divine Mercy planning committee for the Diocese of Oakland; all of the parish volunteers from Good Shepherd in Pittsburg, St. Joan of Arc in San Ramon, Immaculate Heart of Mary in Brentwood, St. Agnes in Concord, St. Anne's in Walnut Creek, St. Francis of Assisi in Concord, St. Anne's in Union City, Holy Spirit in Fremont, and Holy Rosary in Antioch; all of the diocesan and religious priests of Oakland who heard confessions; all of the Marians priests, brothers and seminarians, especially Br. Kevin Gregorek, MIC, my personal representative, and postulant Jason Hilliker, his assistant; the Marian Fathers' Divine Mercy Apostolates; Mary Kay Volpone at the National Shrine of Divine Mercy, the Staff of the Marian Helpers Center in Stockbridge, MA, and the members of the Association of Marian Helpers; all of the speakers, presenters and musicians who traveled from around the country to share their experiences in living the message of God's mercy.

We are deeply grateful to Cardinal Schönborn, President of the World Apostolic Congress on Mercy and to Fr. Patrice Chocholski, its Secretary General. Finally, our profound gratitude goes to the Holy Father, Pope Francis, who has enthusiastically taken up the mantle of mercy from Saint John Paul II and Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI to become our beloved "Mercy Pope."

With best wishes and blessings in our Merciful Lord!

Kazining Chralik, MIC

Father Kazimierz Chwalek, MIC, Vice-Coordinator North American Congress on Mercy

For my information on NACOM visit www.mercycongress.org
For Divine Mercy materials call 1-800-462-7426
or visit www.thedivinemercy.org.
Want to know more about a religious vocation as a Marian?
Call 1-877-261-8806 email: vocations@marian.org
or visit www.marian.org/vocations

