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THE DIVINE MERCY IN THE TEACHING OF JOHN PAUL II

Summary

The mystery of the Divine Mercy appears in the teaching of John Paul II in the encyclical *Dives in misericordia* (1981), that is, from the very beginning of His pontificate.

The Pope by referring to the history of salvation demonstrates that the history in question is permeated by the truth about God of Mercy: creation, sin of the first parents, the announcement of salvation, the revelation on Sinai, and the prophets. The revelation culminates in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ, who reveals mercy to the fullness and teaches mercy.

John Paul II proposes a thesis that mercy accepted by man and realized in life is a great chance for the people of the XXth century to come near to God and to open themselves to their neighbors.

The teaching of John Paul II on the Divine Mercy reaches its completeness in canonization of St. Sister Faustina (2000), and in the act of entrustment of the world to the Divine Mercy (2002).