

DAY 8 | SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2026 | ŁAGIEWNIKI • KRAKÓW

Łagiewniki: Mercy Must Become a Way of Life

GRACE TO ASK

To receive mercy truthfully and let “Jesus, I trust in You” take flesh in one concrete work.

Morning Prayer with the Church

Morning Prayer, Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time, Psalter Week II, Liturgy of the Hours, Volume IV.

Additional pilgrimage intercessions

- For those who believe their sins, addictions, or failures have placed them beyond God’s mercy.
- For victims who need justice, safety, healing, and freedom from pressure to reconcile prematurely.

After the Liturgy of the Hour

Merciful Father, reveal your face in Jesus Christ. Save us from cheap mercy that ignores truth and from hard truth that leaves no road home. Make us trustworthy bearers of compassion, justice, and hope. Amen.

BEFORE WE STEP OFF

We have come to the heart of our pilgrimage. The words “Jesus, I trust in You” are a surrender and a mission. Mercy tells the truth about sin, protects the wounded, opens a road home for the repentant, and sends the forgiven person toward the neighbor. Before Saint Faustina’s tomb, bring the person or wound you would rather keep outside this prayer.



Łagiewniki: Saint Faustina’s resting place and an international center of Divine Mercy. [Photo credit](#)

The place we are entering

When we arrive at Łagiewniki, I hope we will remember how quietly the story of Divine Mercy began. The Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy established their work here in the nineteenth century. Sister Faustina lived here, made her vows here, carried out ordinary convent duties, endured illness, prayed, and died in 1938. The convent chapel, consecrated in 1891, now holds her tomb and the image of the Merciful Jesus painted by Adolf Hyla. Something about this moves me deeply. God entrusted a message for the whole world to a woman whose life was mostly hidden and whose daily work seemed very ordinary.

The story unfolded in several places. In Płock, Faustina reported the 1931 vision in which Christ asked for an image bearing the words, “Jesus, I trust in You.” In Vilnius, Eugeniusz Kazimirowski painted the first Divine Mercy image under her direction. Łagiewniki became her resting place and the devotion’s great international center. I mention these details because our devotion should remain connected to the real people and places through which God worked. Faustina prayed in actual rooms, spoke with actual priests, and trusted God through real illness, uncertainty, and misunderstanding.

Saint John Paul II, the Pilgrim Pope, consecrated the modern basilica in 2002 and entrusted the world to Divine Mercy. His understanding of mercy had been tested by history. He had lived through Nazism and communism, two systems that decided whose lives mattered and whose could be discarded. When he spoke about mercy, he was speaking to a world he knew very well. Mercy does not erase guilt, excuse cruelty, or make justice unnecessary. Mercy declares that sin and human violence will never have the final word over the human heart; sin and human violence will never have the final word over a person created in the image of God.

Today, the shrine welcomes pilgrims from many nations and languages. We will see chapels, *ex-votos* (***small offerings left at a shrine in thanksgiving for a prayer answered or a grace received. They may include plaques, medals, photographs, jewelry, crutches, or small silver hearts*), large liturgies, and signs of a devotion that has reached every part of the world. Still, the heart of Faustina’s message is very simple: trust God and show mercy to your neighbor.

We also need to say this carefully and clearly. Mercy never asks someone to remain in danger. It never excuses abuse or pressures a victim to reconcile before truth, safety, justice, and freedom are present. The Cross shows us how serious sin is, but the Cross also shows us how far God is willing to go to save and restore the human person.

Before we leave Łagiewniki, I would like each of us to choose one corporal or spiritual work of mercy to bring home. Make it specific. Think of a person, a place, or a situation where your presence can make a difference. If the words “Jesus, I trust in You” remain only beneath an image, then the pilgrimage has not yet reached our daily lives. Warsaw has shown us what it means to rebuild. Jasna Góra has taught us something about self-gift. Here at Łagiewniki, I hope we learn to put mercy into practice; our faith into action, and love into service.

PLAYLIST

Misericordias Domini

Taize

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Scan me!



How we enter as pilgrims

- Before Saint Faustina's tomb, name the person toward whom mercy feels hardest.
- Look at the rays in the image as signs of Christ's paschal gift, not spiritual decoration.
- Choose one work of mercy with a person, place, and first step.

Polish for the day: Jezu, ufam Tobie — Jesus, I trust in You.

Today's movement

- 7:00 a.m. breakfast; drive to Łagiewniki.
- 9:00 a.m. Mass in the Italian Chapel at the Sanctuary of Divine Mercy.
- Convent chapel, image of the Merciful Jesus, tomb of Saint Faustina, basilica, and shrine grounds.
- Pray the Chaplet; visit the Saint John Paul II Center; lunch on your own.
- Return to Kraków; 7:30 p.m. included dinner.

CATHOLIC DAILY MASS

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

9:00 a.m. • Italian Chapel, Sanctuary of Divine Mercy • Łagiewniki

Schedule marker only • Use the separate worship aid for Mass

Evening Prayer with the Church

Evening Prayer II of the Sunday, Psalter Week II.

Additional pilgrimage intercessions

- For the mission of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy and for confessors throughout the Church.
- For the person each pilgrim is being called to serve through a concrete work of mercy.

After the Hour

Jesus, I trust in you. Take the promise from our lips and write it into our habits. Let the mercy we received today become patience, truth, protection, forgiveness, and service tomorrow. Amen.

Evening examen and pilgrim notes

What false idea of mercy was corrected today?

What specific work of mercy will I perform after returning home?
