



Divine Mercy Image The Rays of Mercy...

(Flynn, pp 85-91)

Let's now contemplate the most striking feature of the divine Mercy Image;
What do the rays of mercy streaming from Christ's heart tell us?

We all know they represent the Blood and Water flowing from the pierced Heart of Jesus on the Cross- but let's explore the symbolism further.

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First, the Pale Rays symbolize both the gift of the Holy Spirit in the Sacrament of Baptism and the Sacrament of Reconciliation:

"Baptism is the "door" of faith and Christian life... Regenerated by water and the Holy Spirit, we are illuminated by grace which dispels the darkness of sin. The door to a new life is opened and the mercy of God enters our lives..." {Pope Francis}

Second, the Red Rays represent both the Eucharist {the blood that is the "life of souls"} and the Sacrament of Reconciliation {Christ's blood poured out *for the forgiveness of sin*}.

That forgiveness is available to us in the confessional

Together, these rays speak of God's *self-emptying love*.

The blood and water streaming from the tender Heart of God represents the complete outpouring "emptying" of Christ's life blood. He has given all. It is the complete self-giving of the Father to His children.

"...the turning of God against himself for the love of us"

That's what you're worth to God

That's how much He loves you.

That's the story of Mercy these rays tell us.
