# Faustina Kowalska

### **Blessed Are the Merciful**

1905–1938 Born in Głogowiec, Poland Feast Day: October 5 Patron of Mercy

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy." Matthew 5:7

Text by Barbara Yoffie Illustrated by Chris Sharp



#### Dedication

To my family: my parents Jim and Peg, my husband Bill, our son Sam and daughter-in-law Erin, and our precious grandchildren Ben, Lucas, and Andrew

To all the children I have had the privilege of teaching throughout the years.

*Imprimi Potest:* Kevin Zubel, CSsR, Provincial Denver Province, the Redemptorists

Published by Liguori Publications, Liguori, Missouri 63057 To order, visit Liguori.org or call 800-325-9521. Copyright © 2023 Liguori Publications

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ISBN (print): 978-0-7648-2879-9 ISBN (digital): 978-0-7648-2774-0

Liguori Publications, a nonprofit corporation, is an apostolate of the Redemptorists. To learn more about the Redemptorists, visit Redemptorists.com.

Printed in the United States of America 27 26 25 24 23 / 5 4 3 2 1 First Edition

### **Dear Parents and Teachers:**

Saints and Me! is a six-set series of children's books about saints, including the holy people of the: Saints of North America who served our homeland; Saints of Christmas, who teach us to love Jesus; Saints for Families, who modeled God's love within and for the domestic Church; Saints for Communities, who served Jesus through various roles and professions; and Saints for Sacraments, who showed great love for the sacraments.

The eight books in *Saints of the Beatitudes* (a word meaning "a list of blessings from God") introduce nine holy people who exemplify attributes Jesus articulated in his Sermon on the Mount. Faustina Kowalska's diary *Divine Mercy in My Soul*, read by millions, helped spread God's message of mercy. Patrick, a missionary, brought Christianity to Ireland. Monica prayed her wayward son, Augustine, would return to the faith. He did and was canonized. Katharine Drexel abandoned her comfortable life to become a nun. Carlo Acutis shared his faith and love of the Eucharist through technology. Bernadette Soubirous experienced visions of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Pope John XXIII convoked the Second Vatican Council, hoping to revive the Church. Jude was an apostle of our Lord.

Which saint was captured by pirates and sold into slavery? Name the saints with back-to-back feast days (August 27–28). Who gave \$20 million to build churches and schools? Who created a website about eucharistic miracles? Who did Jesus appear and speak to? Who said, "My job is to inform, not to convince"? Who wrote *Peace on Earth* in 1963? Who is the patron of impossible causes? Find out in the *Saints of the Beatitudes* set—part of the *Saints and Me!* series—and help children connect to the lives of the saints.

Introduce your children or students to Saints and Me! as they:

---READ about the lives of the saints and are inspired by their stories.

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—**CELEBRATE** the saints and relate them to their lives.

Free activities for children to use with this book may be downloaded at Liguori.org.

## The Beatitudes

Divine blessings Jesus names in his Sermon on the Mount

Matthew 5:3–12

### saints of the beatitudes

**Patrick** Blessed Are the Poor in Spirit (Verse 3)

monica and Augustine

**Blessed Are the Mournful (Verse 4)** 

Katharine Drexei

**Blessed Are the Meek (Verse 5)** 

Cario Acutis

**Blessed Are the Righteous (Verse 6)** 

FAUSTINA KOWAISKA

Blessed Are the Merciful (Verse 7)

**Bernadette** 

**Blessed Are the Pure of Heart (Verse 8)** 

**POPE JOHN XXIII** Blessed Are the Peacemakers (Verse 9)

Jude the Apostie

Blessed Are the Persecuted (Verses 10-12)

Saint Faustina Kowalska is a popular saint of the Catholic Church. She loved Jesus very much and trusted him with all her heart. Jesus asked her to tell people about his love and mercy.

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She is called the Apostle of Mercy because she worked hard to spread Jesus' message of Divine Mercy.

Saint Faustina was born in Poland, the third-oldest of ten children. Her parents named her Helena. She was a beautiful baby! Her family lived on a small farm. Everyone helped with the chores. They planted crops, and they fed the chickens and the pigs. Helena liked to help her mother in the kitchen. Her family prayed together every morning and every night.



### saints and me! SAINTS FOR SACRAMENTS

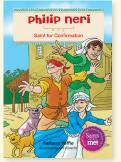
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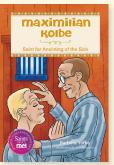
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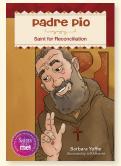
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