

# THE DIVINE MERCY CHOR

## FRM THE SHRINE OF DIVINE MERCY IN VILNIUS

# 2024 CONCERT TOUR

The Original Divine Mercy Institute proudly presents The Divine Mercy Choir on tour for the first time in the USA. The ensemble will perform concerts in some of the most beautiful churches from New York City to Los Angeles beginning mid-Lent of 2024 through April 7, Divine Mercy Sunday. Each event features a multi-media, full-immersion presentation explaining the improbable history and unveiling the significance of the Original Image of Divine Mercy. Then, before a full-size, exact replica of the original masterpiece, the Divine Mercy Choir gives a concert exhibiting the ancient sacred music that would have been familiar to Saint Faustina herself. The production and set are completely self-contained, mobile, and customizable to any sanctuary. Let Divine Mercy be reveled through a sublime evening of beauty, an event that will prepare hearts for the graces of Divine Mercy Sunday. The U.S. Concert Tour of 2024 has 15 available dates.

### ABOUT THE EVENT

What did the young Sr. Faustina discover when she came to live in a small convent in the picturesque city of Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania? In her famous diary, she reflects on how the doors to Divine Mercy would first be opened in what she came to know as "my beloved Vilnius." Divine Mercy Sunday was celebrated if unofficially for the first time by Fr. Michał Sopoćko, Saint Faustina's spiritual director, on April 28, 1935, when the painting of Divine Mercy by Prof. Eugeniusz Kazimirowski was first publicly displayed. Shortly thereafter, Lithuania went through "Soviet Times;" devastating occupations by various communist regimes during which sacred art was suppressed, including paintings, music, and literature. The Catholic Church went underground. The Original Image of Divine Mercy had to be abandoned, and then was smuggled, hidden, lost, stolen, and almost destroyed. In 1990, Lithuania declared her independence from the Soviet Union and has been experiencing a rebirth of culture ever since. Saint Faustina's priceless painting has been restored and is now publicly venerated in the Shrine of Divine Mercy in Vilnius where The Divine Mercy Choir was first formed.

### ABOUT THE CHOR



In an effort to restore and preserve the ancient sacred music that was eminent during the life of Saint Faustina, The Divine Mercy Choir has been performing and recording a vast repertoire of hymns that are particular to Lithuania - music that has not been heard in almost a century. Founding director Gabija Vaičiulienė has been researching medieval Christian music for many years, and is currently studying Gregorian Chant in Rome at the Pontifical Institute of Sacred Music. With a focus on liturgical music, the 5-member choir has collaborated with many well-known conductors at the Notre Dame School of Polyphony at the Cathedral in Paris.

The Divine Mercy Choir has sung across Europe for countless dignitaries, including the Pope, and has provided the liturgical music for major religious celebrations. Recently, the choir has been featured on EWTN as part of the international broadcast of the Divine Mercy Sunday Mass live from Vilnius, and has performed at the annual Divine Mercy Summit.

On their U.S. Concert Tour, The Divine Mercy Choir will be featuring medieval hymns preserved through oral tradition, a unique and integral part of ancient Lithuanian Catholic culture. Like the Original Image of Divine Mercy, the very existence of the Divine Mercy Choir and the work they are doing is proof that the Good will always win and that Beauty and Truth cannot be canceled.

### BOOKING

For more information about scheduling a concert in 2024, please contact the Original Divine Mercy Institute at [OriginalDivineMercy@gmail.com](mailto:OriginalDivineMercy@gmail.com), or call us at 817-936-3348. Also please visit [www.DivineMercyChoir.com](http://www.DivineMercyChoir.com) for our promo video and more information.