



Nhóm Tông Đồ Chúa Tình Thương - The Viet Apostolate of Divine Mercy

“Hỡi tông đồ của tình thương Cha, con hãy công bố cho cả thế giới biết tình thương vô hạn của Cha”

“Apostle of My mercy, proclaim to the whole world My unfathomable mercy.” (St Faustina – Diary 1142)

12173 Highgate Court – Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91739 – (909) 974-9520

tdctt-hsttm@gmail.com / daminhmariacaotantinh@gmail.com

CUSTOMARY

The Viet Apostolate of Divine Mercy

Origin:

1. **The Viet Apostolate of Divine Mercy** is both an inspiration from and a response to Blessed Pope John Paul II’s following insight and timely exhortation:

a “From the beginning of her existence the Church, pointing to the mystery of the Cross and the Resurrection, has preached the mercy of God, a pledge of hope and a source of salvation for man. Nonetheless, it would appear that *we today have been particularly called* to proclaim this message before the world. We cannot neglect this mission, if God himself has called us to it through the testimony of Saint Faustina. God has chosen our own times for this purpose. ...”

b. “*The message of merciful love needs to resound forcefully anew.* The world needs this love. The hour has come to bring Christ’s message to everyone: to rulers and the oppressed, to those whose humanity and dignity seem lost in the *mysterium iniquitatis*. The hour has come when the message of Divine Mercy is able to fill hearts with hope and to become the spark of a new civilization: the civilization of love.”
(*Błonie, Kraków, 18 August 2002, no. 3*)

Mission:

2. The mission of **the Viet Apostles of Divine Mercy** is: *“To resound forcefully anew the message of merciful love to everyone in order to fill hearts with hope and to become the spark of civilization of love”*.

Spirituality:

3. **The Viet Apostles of Divine Mercy** tries to continue the role of Saint Faustina in witnessing to the Divine Mercy according to what was instructed by Jesus in her Diary, including both interior - experience of Divine Mercy, and exterior - proclamation of Divine Mercy:

- a. Experience of Divine Mercy: *“I desire that your heart be formed after the model of My merciful Heart. You must be completely imbued with My mercy”* (Diary 167); *“I desire that you be entirely transformed into love and that you burn ardently as a pure victim of love”* (Diary 726).
- b. Proclamation of Divine Mercy: *“Apostle of My mercy, proclaim to the whole world My unfathomable mercy.”* (Diary 1142); *“you are to be My living reflection, through love and mercy... be always merciful toward other people, and especially toward sinners.”* (Diary 1446)

4. There are three steps in order to *“be always merciful toward other people”*, per Jesus’ teaching, as follows: *“I am giving you three ways of exercising mercy toward your neighbor: the first - by deed, the second - by word, the third - by prayer. In these three degrees is contained the fullness of mercy, and it is an unquestionable proof of love for Me. By this means a soul glorifies and pays reverence to My mercy”* (Diary 742).

Logo:

5. In order *“to be (Jesus’) living reflection, through love and mercy”*, members of **the Viet Apostolate of Divine Mercy** definitely needs to have a transcendent vision about others, as implied in its logo.

6. The logo of **the Viet Apostolate of Divine Mercy** is composed of three constructive elements which are in order: the eye, the pupil and the man.

7. The eye can’t see without the pupil; however the pupil can see everything only as the pure objects (cf. Mk 8:24) or the self (cf. Mt 7:5), not be able to recognize the whole truth

and the real human being, unless with love through the Spirit who was given to our soul (cf. Rm 5:5), and who performs perfect love acts in the missionaries of mercy.

*Help us to know how to see
our every brothers and sisters
with your eyes of merciful love
so that all will be one
in Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen!*



Ministry:

8. In order to do “exercising mercy toward your neighbor: the first - by deed, the second - by word” one of the most essential and spiritual apostolic activities of **the Viet Apostolate of Divine Mercy** is ministry of retreat. For “it is your mission to win souls for Me by prayer and sacrifice, and by encouraging them to trust in My mercy.” (Diary, 1690);

9. The second apostolic activities performed by **the Viet Apostolate of Divine Mercy** is charity, in terms of feeding homeless in U.S. and missionary trips back to Viet Nam or every where in the world. Jesus, whose “heart was moved with pity” (Mt 9:36; 14:14), not only sent his disciples to preach (cf. Mt 10:1) but also to have them participate in distributing the multiplied bread to hungry people (cf. Mt 14:13-21).

Membership

9. There are two kinds of memberships: active and inactive.

10. The active members are the ones who may involve in various activities: meetings and retreats held by the Group.

11. The inactive members, for the reason of poor health, can participate or contribute in the Group's apostolic activities by their prayers along with their sufferings.

12. Members join the Group as the active members needs to participate in both retreats "Come to Me" and "Learn from Me" before taking the oath.

13. The inactive join the Group need to listen to a set of CDs about the Divine Mercy produced by the Group before taking the oath.

14. A member may wish to terminate one's membership at any time. Without participating for about a year in any activity of the Group, one's membership shall be terminated.

15. There is no uniform for the members of the Group except for the logo badge on their chest or a special scarf at meeting or celebration and public service.

Activities

16. There are two types of activities which are related to the Group's spirituality: experience and proclamation of Divine Mercy.

17. Activities relate to the experience of Divine Mercy are the monthly meetings of members locally, or the quarterly meetings of members in the same area (over two groups in one diocese or over two/three groups in two or three nearby dioceses) or the triennially meetings of members in nationwide.

18. Activities relate to the proclamation of Divine Mercy are the yearly retreats Come to Me and Learn from Me that will be held everywhere. This type of activity also includes media such as radio broadcasting, website, CDs or DVDs, and charitable sharing with suffers of poverty, of natural calamities, and visiting the sick persons at home or in hospital, the prisoners in jail or helping the homeless on the street etc.

Financing

19. There is no membership fee. There is no fee charged for any retreat held by the Group. However at these spiritual events, the Group may accept any financial donation from participants according to their contributions.

20. The Group can do fundraising to meet its apostolic and charitable activities, through the sale of CDs or DVDs produced by it. The Group may also do mail campaign for fundraising.

Leadership

21. Leadership in the Group includes the following 4 levels and 5 positions: 4 levels – parish, diocese, nationwide and worldwide; 5 positions for each level: spiritual director, principal mission coordinator, 1st service consultant, 2nd service consultant, secretary and financial officer.

22. The spiritual director is a priest proposed by the Group and approved by the diocesan bishop from the level of diocese or above.

23. The principal mission coordinator is a deacon or a layperson, man or woman, who is recommended by the members of each level by vote and approved by the spiritual director.

24. The principal mission coordinator is the one who establishes his cabinet by selecting his/her assistant coordinator, secretary and financial officer.

25. The term for the principal mission coordinator and his/her cabinet lasts for 3 years and may be continued for 3 consecutive terms.

26. The duties of the principal mission coordinator include the tasks such as: 1- careful following the Group's Handbook especially what relates to meetings; 2- closely keeping in touch with his/her group members; 3- actively cooperating with other in apostolic activities; 4- representing his/her group in voting for the general mission coordinator of the whole Group.

27. The principal mission coordinator, due to his/her own decision, may resign anytime or, due to a legitimate reason, can be asked to resign by 2/3 members of his/her group level upon its spiritual director's consent.

Founder:

Name: Dominic Mary Tinh T. Cao

Parish: St Peter and St Paul Church in San Bernardino Diocese

Phone: 909-974-9520 (cel.)

Email: daminhmariacaotantinh@gmail.com

Apostolic Work Background:

- 1- Former religious brother from the Congregation of the Mother of Co-Redemptrix (1964-1982);
- 2- Former religious education leader for the Vietnamese Community of Our Lady of the Assumption Parish (1990-1992);
- 3- Former chief leader for the Vietnamese Youth of Our Lady of Fatima in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles (1991-2005);
- 4- President of the World Apostolate of Fatima for Vietnamese Community in U.S. (8/1997-2012, 8/2012-8/2018);
- 5- Founder of the Knight of the Marian Heart since 1998;
- 6- Founder of the Apostolate of Divine Mercy since 2009;
- 7- Speaker on subject of Our Lady of Fatima in National Marian Day of Vietnamese Community in Missouri (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013);
- 8- Speaker on subject of Divine Mercy for retreats in different places (Orange County, Riverside and San Jose CA, Philadelphia PA, Houston and Fort Worth TX, Seattle WA, Arlington VA, Allentown PA) since 2009;
- 9- Speaker on Marian subject for both annual retreats and Eucharistic Congress in Benedictine Monastery in Kerens Texas since 2011 until 2017;
- 10- Speaker on subject of Marriage and Education for retreats and marriage preparation classes in Riverside CA since 2003 until 2017;
- 11- Author of 18 books on subject of Our Lady of Fatima (in Vietnamese only), including CDs and DVDs;
- 12- Author of 8 books on subject of Divine Mercy (in Vietnamese only), including CDs and DVDs;
- 13- Promoter and Leader of Radio Talk Show named the Good News of Life on 106.3 FM in Southern California every Friday (7:30-8:00 pm) since 9/2000 until 12/2013.

References:

- 1- Rev. Joseph Long Tuan Nguyen, Former General Chaplain of the Apostolic Group of Merciful God – (310) 619-6614;
- 2- Monsignor Joseph DucMinh, the Deputy Chief-Chaplains of the Viet Apostolate of Divine Mercy – (714) 603-3461
- 3- Rev. Louis Nhien M. Vu, CRM, the Provincial Superior of the Congregation of Mother Co-redemptrix – (417) 358-7787;
- 4- Rev. Dominic Hanh D. Nguyen, OSB, Prior for Vietnamese Benedictine Monastery – (214) 604-7582.