



Father Seraphim Michalenko bio

Fr. Seraphim Michalenko, MIC, is a familiar face to EWTN viewers from his appearances on instructive and inspirational programs dealing with the Divine Mercy message and devotion, as revealed to St. Maria Faustina Kowalska. He has been involved in spreading this message for over 50 years.

For more than 20 years, he was vice-postulator for North America for the canonization cause of Sr. Maria Faustina Kowalska, the Secretary and Apostle of Jesus, the Divine Mercy. He was a witness to the first miracle attributed to St. Faustina's intercession that opened the way for her beatification in 1993, as well as the coordinator of the efforts that served to verify both that miracle and a second one, which made possible adding the religious sister to the list of saints on April 30, 2000.

A native of Adams, Massachusetts, Fr. Seraphim has lived more than 55 years as a professed religious and 50 years a priest. He is a member of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of Mercy Province of the Congregation of Marian Fathers of the Immaculate Conception of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary. With licentiate degrees from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas (the Angelicum) and the Pontifical Institute of Eastern Church Studies (the Orientale) in Rome, he lectured for several semesters in the Department of Theology at the Catholic University of America, and has served in seminary and formation positions for the Marians.

Fr. Seraphim has served as rector of the National Shrine of The Divine Mercy and director of the John Paul II Institute of Divine Mercy, both located in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. He also has held various administrative roles in the St. Stanislaus Kostka Province and the Congregation's Generalate in Rome, as well as pastoral roles in Eastern Rite parishes in Ohio, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. Fr. Seraphim served as a core member of the Bethany House of Intercession for Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, a spiritual renewal movement for Catholic clergy in the 1970s, serving priests from all over the world. During the 1980s, after the Holy See lifted the ban on Sr.

Faustina's writings and forms of Divine Mercy devotions, Fr. Seraphim was called from Bethany House to head the Divine Mercy Department at the Marian Helpers headquarters in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. In that position, he wrote several series of articles for the Marian Helpers magazine, and supervised the production of various books, pamphlets and audio-visual materials dealing with the Divine Mercy message and devotion and Sr. Faustina's writings.

Fr. Seraphim served as theological advisor for the award-winning video docu-drama *Divine Mercy — No Escape*, and for the devotional video *Sister Faustina: The Promise of Mercy*. He also played a significant role in the production and narration of a video released in 1992, *Sister Faustina: The Apostle of Divine Mercy*. Then, from November 1991 to October 1995, he served as director of the Association of Marian Helpers under the honorary title "Fr. Joseph." In this capacity, he supervised the scripting and production of another video, *Time for Mercy* — released in 1994 by the Marians in conjunction with Marian Communications Ltd., which won a First Place Gold Camera Award in international competition for outstanding creativity in the production of audio visual communications.