

The Works of Mercy

The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his or her spiritual and bodily necessities. They are both works of justice (long-term) and charity (immediate) that are pleasing to God.



Which work of mercy would you like to grow in? Which do you think you are naturally good at? (see list below)

SERVICE & MERCY

1 Peter 4:10-11

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms... If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen."



Why do you think the parish asks that you participate in service during your preparation for Confirmation? Consider the Bible passages you have read at this station.

The Works of Mercy

Spiritual

Instructing the ignorant
Admonishing the sinner
Bearing wrongs patiently
Forgiving injuries
Counseling the doubtful
Comforting the sorrowful
Praying for the living and the dead

Corporal

Feed the hungry
Visit the sick
Give drink to the thirsty
Clothe the naked
Shelter the homeless
Bury the dead
Visit the imprisoned

Read Matthew 25:31-46 from the Bible provided and the comments on this poster. Then complete the activity sheet.

Jesus taught us to love one another by serving one another. But service isn't just something we do because people need help or to accomplish great deeds, service is at the heart of what it means to be Christian.

Many saints are well known for their loving service, especially to those in great need or illness. Mother Teresa is one of the most well-known—she was inspired to serve the poorest of the poor because she saw in them the face of Christ.

"There is always the danger that we may just do the work for the sake of the work. This is where the respect and the love and the devotion come in - that we do it to God, to Christ, and that's why we try to do it as beautifully as possible."

—Mother Teresa