



Minute of Mercy

FEEDING THE HUNGRY

“Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.” (Matthew 25:40)

In the book, You Did It to Me, Fr. Michael Gaitley discusses what the “big test” of this life is all about. To get ready for the last day, the billion-dollar question is “How do we better become people of mercy?” He states that mercy is a movement of compassion (we see someone suffering and feel compassion for them) and also a movement of action (we reach out to alleviate the suffering). It is in this “action” part of mercy that we focus on the Corporal Work of Mercy, Feeding the Hungry.

As Christians, we are called to satisfy the hunger and thirst of our neighbors. There are many ways we can do this. So many food pantries are empty; help to fill them. Organize a food drive. Make dinner for a family in need. As Fr. Michael says, “making a meal for someone or for a family in such a situation is a great work of mercy.” Also consider this: within the domestic church, works of mercy can be performed. Homemakers themselves can perform works of mercy by transforming what seems like meaningless labor into works of love – if we consciously choose to make them so. Breadwinners of the family feed the hungry by going to work every day and earn the wages.

In this Jubilee Year of Mercy, let’s do what we can to exercise mercy. We know it’s not always easy or even feasible to cater to the needs of masses of people. So as Mother Teresa says, “If you can’t feed a hundred people, then feed just one.”

Mercy in Action

*This week’s **Mercy in Action** is for all of St. Peter Parish to consider donating a non-perishable food item to the Covington Food Bank this week.*