

CONFIRMATION



Works of Mercy Service Project
Service Ideas

FEED THE HUNGRY (GIVE)

“For I was hungry and you gave me food.” - Matthew 25:35

There are many people in this world who go without food. When so much of our food goes to waste, consider how good stewardship practices of your own food habits can benefit others who do not have those same resources.

- Go Out: serve at a soup kitchen, organize a food drive at your parish, school, or with family and friends, keep granola bars in your car to pass out to hungry people you encounter, volunteer at a food pantry.
- At Home: Make lunch, dinner, or dessert for someone in need such as an elderly neighbor or relative, give your dessert to a sibling, skip a second helping so that someone else can have it.

GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY (GIVE)

“I was thirsty and you gave me drink.” - Matthew 25:35

Many of our brothers and sisters in Christ do not have access to clean water and suffer from the lack of this basic necessity. We should support the efforts of those working towards greater accessibility of this essential resource.

- Go Out: Organize a water bottle drive, keep a case of water bottles in your car to give to thirsty people you encounter. Research organizations that help people who don't have clean water to drink and find out how you can help.
- At Home: Ask others if you can get them something to drink, especially guests, friends, mail carrier, Trash and Recycling workers, or a contractor working on your street. Make an effort not to waste water at home.

CLOTHE THE NAKED (SHELTER)

“(I was) naked and you clothed me.” - Matthew 25:36

- Go Out: Donate clothing or hygiene items to your local shelter, offer to take old items from your school's lost and found to a charity.
- At Home: Share your clothes with your siblings, choose not to buy new clothes, instead donate that money to a Women's or Men's Shelter.

SHELTER THE HOMELESS (SHELTER)

“(I was) a stranger and you welcomed me.” - Matthew 25:35

There are many circumstances that could lead to someone becoming a person without a home. Christ encourages us to go out and meet those without homes, affirming their worth and helping them seek a resolution to the challenges they face.

- Go Out: assist a charity or organization like Habitat for Humanity in building or maintaining housing for those in need, serve at a homeless shelter; collect or make blankets for children that live in shelters, donate money to the St. Vincent de Paul Society.
- At Home: welcome all guests, including the guests of your family members, help elderly neighbors with yard work or housework.

VISIT THE SICK (ACCOMPANY)

“(I was) ill and you cared for me.” - Matthew 25:36

- Go Out: volunteer at a hospital or nursing home if COVID restrictions permit; Send games, cards and books to a nursing home.
- At Home: visit and make a meal for friends and family who are sick, spend time with friends and family who struggle with depression or another mental/physical disability.

VISIT THE IMPRISONED (ACCOMPANY)

“(I was) in prison and you visited me.” - Matthew 25:36

- Go Out: Serve with your parishes' prison ministry, help supply those who visit prisons with devotional items like rosaries or religious books. Make Cards and Notes of encouragement and hope for Prisoners.
- At Home: Sit with someone at school who is socially isolated, befriend someone who has been judged or outcasted for past actions. Spend time with a sibling or family member who is going through a hard time and is grounded, punished, or ignored.

BURY THE DEAD (ACCOMPANY)

“If I saw one of my people who had died and been thrown outside the walls of Nineveh, I would bury him.” - Tobit 1:16

- Go Out: Attend or volunteer as an altar server or musician at a funeral at your parish, assist financially with funeral costs of those in your community, write condolence cards for families of the deceased at your parish, visit a cemetery and pray for the eternal rest of the souls.
- At Home: Help your family make food for the wake, spend time with widowed grandparents or family members and friends who have lost someone and are grieving.

COUNSEL THE DOUBTFUL (SPEAK)

“Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and God of all encouragement, who encourages us in our every affliction, so that we may be able to encourage those who are in any affliction with the encouragement with which we ourselves are encouraged by God.” - 2 Corinthians 1:3

- Go Out: Be a source of encouragement on social media, on your sports teams and at school.
- At Home: Schedule a time to talk with a friend who is struggling. Equip yourself with a better knowledge of Sacred Scripture that you can reference to encourage others.

INSTRUCT THE IGNORANT (SPEAK)

“In wisdom made perfect, instruct and admonish one another.” - Colossians 3:16

- Go Out: Share the Gospel at school, in your Confirmation class, as a teen assistant, learn how to articulate the teachings of the Church.
- At Home: Share what you learn about your faith with your family members and friends.

ADMONISH THE SINNER (SPEAK)

“Brothers, even if a person is caught in some transgression, you who are spiritual should correct that one in a gentle spirit.” Galatians 6:1

To admonish is to firmly warn or reprimand someone. This must be done with great love and concern for souls. The proper goal of admonishing a sinner is to lead to repentance, not to condemn or judge.

- Go Out: Support organizations that promote and support the dignity of human life.
- At Home: Speak up when your peers, family and friends talk about behaviors and actions that you know are wrong. Encourage options that don't compromise your beliefs.

COMFORT THE SORROWFUL (LISTEN)

“Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.” - Romans 12:15

- Go Out: Pray for areas of strife and conflict in the world, especially among Christians. Encourage others to join you. Devote a weekly rosary or a Novena to this cause.
- At Home: Be present to those struggling, especially with loss, rejection, and illness. Bring peace to those in need and pray with them.

BEAR WRONGS PATIENTLY (LISTEN)

“Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.” -

Matthew 6:14

- Go Out: Be persistent in speaking about and living your faith publicly, face-to-face and on Social Media even if you know there will be persecutions.
- At Home: Endure insult and accusation with humility. Chose to refrain from defensive and aggressive responses especially on Social Media.

FORGIVE WRONGS WILLINGLY (INTERIOR)

“Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.” - Matthew 6:12

- Go Out: Pray for those involved with corrupt organizations.
- At Home: Forgive those who have wronged you, including those who have not asked for forgiveness. Be sure to express this forgiveness in prayer to God.

PRAY FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD (INTERIOR)

“Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from this sin.” - 2 Maccabees 12:46

- Go Out: Pray for all people, especially those who may not have anyone else to pray for them. Remember those who have died, whether or not you knew them, and ask for God’s mercy on their souls that they may enjoy the beauty of Heaven, pray for all the Souls in Purgatory.
- At Home: Pray for the living and the dead, friends, and family members, including enemies, and those who are hard to love.