

# WORKS OF MERCY

The works of mercy are charitable actions motivated by Christian love by which we help our neighbor obtain what he or she needs spiritually and materially. Instructing, advising, consoling and comforting are spiritual works of mercy, as are forgiving and bearing wrongs patiently.

The corporal works of mercy consist especially in feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned, and burying the dead. The works of mercy are not optional but are absolutely essential to living the Christian life of holiness and goodness. (CCC2447)



## Corporal Works of Mercy

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



## Spiritual Works of Mercy

- To admonish the sinner (correct those who need correction)
- To instruct the ignorant (teach the ignorant)
- To counsel the doubtful (give advice to those who need it)
- To comfort the sorrowful (give comfort to those who suffer)
- To bear wrongs patiently (be patient with others)
- To forgive all injuries (to forgive others who hurt you.)
- To pray for the living and the dead (to pray for everyone who needs our prayers)