



## What are the Corporeal Works of Mercy?

The corporeal works of mercy are derived from the Gospel of Matthew 25:31-46. Jesus lists the works of mercy below and then says, "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." The works of mercy demonstrate how we should treat others, as if they were Jesus in disguise.

Corporeal means "relating to a person's body." The Corporal Works of Mercy are these kind acts by which we help our neighbors with their material and physical needs. These works of mercy show compassion, care, and love:

- Feed the hungry
- Shelter the homeless
- Clothe the naked
- Visit the sick and imprisoned
- Bury the dead
- Give alms to the poor

Some ways to practice the corporeal works of mercy include visiting a nursing home, donating to a food pantry, donating blood, writing a letter to a homebound parishioner, or sending a card to someone who recently lost a loved one.

To learn more about the corporeal works of mercy or view a list of ideas on how to live these in your daily life, visit [www.usccb.org](http://www.usccb.org) and type "corporeal works of mercy" in the search field or visit St. Mary Facebook page.