



*Pope Francis always encourages us to open our hearts to our brothers and sisters who are suffering by answering God's call to know and serve people in need in loving, compassionate ways. What a beautiful challenge this is for us all!*

*To help us with this challenge to be "Merciful Like The Father," we encourage you to incorporate the Seven Corporal and Seven Spiritual works of mercy into your life everyday. Below lists some practical ways to observe the Corporal and Spiritual works of mercy.*

## **The 7 Corporal Works of Mercy**

Kind bodily acts that help our neighbors with their everyday material and physical needs.

### **Feed the Hungry**

- Participate in GSCC's Sack Lunch Project with **UGM**.
- Bring non-perishable items to Masses at Good Shepherd.
- Serve meals to the homeless at **UGM** & other shelters.

### **Shelter the Homeless (Welcome the Stranger)**

- Help senior neighbors care for their homes and do repairs through **Mid Cities Care Corps**.
- Support and/or volunteer at a homeless shelter such as **UGM**.
- Be a foster parent through **Catholic Charities Fort Worth**.

### **Clothe the Naked**

- Donate clothing, shoes and other items to one of our outreach partners (**see reverse side for partner information**) and/or volunteer at one of their donation sites or resale shops.
- Participate in our Coat, Blanket & Winter Wear Collection in October.

### **Visit the Sick**

- Become part of our **Visitation Ministry** to the sick and homebound or the **Stephen Ministry**, which provides confidential, one-on-one Christian care to hurting people.
- Call, email or send a note or card to someone who is sick.
- Volunteer to drive patients to medical appointments and treatment facilities through **Catholic Charities Transportation Services** and **Mid Cities Care Corps**.

### **Visit the Imprisoned (Ransom the Captive)**

- Visit prisoners at the Fort Worth Federal Correctional Institution (FCI) and prisons through our **Prison Ministry**.
- Get involved with GSCC's **Social Justice Ministry** to support programs advocating for the unjustly imprisoned and the abolition of the death penalty.
- Write to the imprisoned and pray for them & their families.

### **Give to the Poor**

- Interact with and listen with love and care to the poor nearby.
- In December, participate in GSCC's **Advent Angel Tree** and **Christmas Food Basket** programs.
- Provide for people in Honduras who live in poverty by donating to our **Honduras Mission Program**
- Commit to making a monthly monetary donation to one or more charitable organizations serving the poor.

### **Bury the Dead**

- Participate in our **Lazarus** or **Bethany** Ministries.
- Make a meal for a grieving family.
- Pray everyday for the dead.

## **The 7 Spiritual Works of Mercy**

Recognizing sin, ignorance, doubt, sorrow and other human conditions, and reaching out in love and faith.

### **Comfort the Afflicted**

- Offer words of encouragement to people who are discouraged and be present to those in emotional pain or despair.
- Offer sympathy to the grieving.
- Pray for & give comfort & care to those with sick loved ones.

### **Instruct the Ignorant**

- Learn more about our Catholic faith through our **Adult Faith Formation programs** and through **Formed**.
- Share your understanding of our faith with others by volunteering with our **RCIA, Alpha, Catholics Respect Life, Come Home** and/or **Interreligious Dialogue** ministries.
- Be a teacher in Good Shepherd's **Youth Faith Formation** program.

### **Counsel the Doubtful**

- Be a good listener when someone talks about a problem & seeks advice; pray for God's wisdom in giving the advice.
- Encourage those in doubt to pray.
- Work at being optimistic and avoid cynicism; respond in hopeful, positive ways to cynicism, skepticism and doubt.

### **Admonish the Sinner (Conversion Toward Jesus)**

- Admonishing the sinner begins by admonishing one's self. If you are hurting because of a sin, receive God's grace and forgiveness in the **Sacrament of Reconciliation**.
- If someone you know puts their soul in danger because of sin, lovingly inform and remind that person of this and mercifully urge him or her to break from a life of sin.
- While we condemn the sin, we do not condemn the sinner. No one hated sin and yet loved sinners more than Jesus.

### **Bear Wrongs Patiently**

- If someone wrongs you, act with a loving heart towards that person.
- Be less critical of others, overlooking minor flaws & mistakes.
- Remember people who hurt do so because they are in pain.

### **Forgive Offenses Willingly**

- Extend forgiveness to those who hurt you. If this is difficult, pray for the courage, strength and desire to forgive those who have wronged you.
- Do an act of kindness for a difficult person.

### **Pray for the Living and the Dead**

- Be a scheduled **Eucharistic Adorer** in our Daily Chapel.
- Pray for your enemies & those in most need of God's mercy.
- Pray for the souls in purgatory & incorporate prayer into your everyday life, turning your life into a beautiful offering to God.



**Good Shepherd partners with eight social service organizations to help people in need in our local community.** In addition to participating in parish-sponsored programs, parishioners can share their gifts of time and talent by volunteering with one or more of the our outreach partners.

- **Cassata Catholic High School** provides young people with another chance at success through an effective education that enables students of all backgrounds to complete their secondary education. Cassata needs help with its Fresh Market Tuesdays and its Life Skills and Mentoring programs
- **Catholic Charities Fort Worth** is a service-driven organization determined to end poverty by providing service to those in need, to advocate compassion and justice in the structures of society, and to call all people of goodwill to do the same. Volunteer at Tinker House for Central Intake and Transportation, or at the Fort Worth Campus for Refugee Services, the Creating Hope Donation Center and the Assessment Center.
- **SafeHaven of Tarrant County** is the largest most comprehensive non-profit agency serving victims of domestic violence in Tarrant County. Volunteer opportunities exist with its resale store — Berry Good Buys — and shelter storage facility.
- **GRACE** (Grapevine Relief And Community Exchange) is a relief agency that provides food, clothing and other emergency assistance to residents in need in Grapevine, Colleyville, Southlake and the surrounding areas. Volunteer opportunities exist with its Food Pantry, Resale Stores, Donation Station, Health Clinic, Transitional Housing Program, annual Christmas Cottage and summer-long Feed Our Kids program.
- **Mid Cities Care Corps** preserves the independence of senior neighbors in Northeast Tarrant County by providing transportation, helping build in-home wheelchair ramps, completing home repairs and yard maintenance, and keeping seniors socially connected through events and Phone-A-Friend.
- **St. George Catholic School** serves many low-income families in Fort Worth. Volunteer with its Share-A-Story reading program or by hosting an after-school club or helping with maintenance projects around the school.
- **St. John's Baby World** offers assistance to families with children by providing gently used clothing, baby food/formula, baby toiletries, diapers and toys. Volunteer by sorting donations at Baby World or teaching English as a Second Language (ESL).
- **Union Gospel Mission Tarrant County** is dedicated to helping the homeless in Fort Worth. It serves 3 meals a days, 7 days a week and provides the homeless with other support. Volunteer at GSCC with our Sack Lunch program or in Fort Worth by serving meals, mentoring the homeless or working in its warehouse.

## SERVICE to OTHERS Ministries

**Parishioners interested in making a positive difference in peoples lives can share their gifts by getting involved with one or more of Good Shepherd's Service to Other Ministries.**

- **Baby Looms** is a pro-life ministry that knits baby hats on a loom and donates them to various charities.
- **ChristCare** is Good Shepherd's parish outreach program and part of our partnership with Catholic Charities Fort Worth. We provide financial assistance, counseling and other services to parishioners and individuals in need who reside in 10 area zip codes.
- **Divorced & Separated Ministry** brings hope & healing to divorced & separated Catholics.
- **GriefShare** is a Christ-centered ministry to help parishioners and other people who are grieving the death of someone they love.
- **Honduras Mission Program** facilitates Good Shepherd's covenant partnership with the Fray Casimiro Cypher Trade School, plus an elementary, middle and high school in Campamento, Honduras.
- **Lazarus Ministry** assists at all funerals to assure that all funeral Mass details are met. Training is provided.
- **Mission Ministry** leads parishioners to social action for the common good by serving people in need through our Honduras Mission Program and through Mission Services such as formation and mission trip programs.
- **Prayer Shawl Ministry** makes and prays over prayer shawls that are given to those who are sick or suffering through trying times.
- **Prison Ministry** visits with people who are imprisoned and works to foster spiritual growth and a deepening of both inmates and volunteers personal relationship with God and Christ Jesus.
- **Samuel Ministry** offers fun and loving care for special needs family members from 6:00-8:30 p.m. on various Friday nights throughout the year. No food is provided, just a lot of fun! Registration is required.
- **Social Justice Ministry** educates parishioners about respecting and protecting the life and dignity of every person at every stage and in every condition from conception to natural death.
- **Stephen Ministry** provides care and support to people who are hurt or going through a challenging time. Ministers receive 50 hours of training to provide high-quality, confidential, one-to-one Christian care to hurting people.
- **Visitation Ministry** provides prayer, presence and Holy Communion to the elderly, disabled and sick at adult living facilities within our parish boundaries and to those who are confined to their homes.

## WANT TO VOLUNTEER?

**Visit our Outreach Services & Mission Ministry webpages to learn more**

*or contact*

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