

GUIDELINES FOR WORKS OF MERCY SERVICE PROJECTS

“It is to you young people that the task first falls of bearing witness to the Faith and bringing into the Faith and bringing into the third millennium the Gospel of Christ, who is the Way, the Truth, the Life...”
Pope St. John Paul II

“The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities. 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.” (CCC 2447)

‘Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.’ Matt 25:34-40

Jesus served those in need to make a connection with each person. It is in this way that we come to understand that all of us are “one” in the “Body of Christ.” Service is not just a job to be done to fulfill a requirement but is a life-long commitment to care for others as Christ cares for us. The Works of Mercy are powerful ways to serve all people.

Service is based on the spiritual and corporal works of mercy, and most of all on the example of Christ who came to serve. When providing service, the following points should be considered:

- Your service is not just a job to be done.
- You should reflect on how your service projects are helping you take on the mind and heart of Christ, fulfilling the needs of others, and building up the Christian community.
- Providing a service to God and our neighbor should continue after receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation, and all through your life.

You must perform a total of six (6) separate tasks that require at least an hour each or more of your time relating to three (3) different Corporal Works of Mercy and three (3) different Spiritual Works of Mercy.

POSSIBLE SUGGESTIONS FOR WORKS OF MERCY PROJECTS

Corporal Works of Mercy and Examples

Feed the hungry and Give drink to the thirsty:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in a food drive • Help at OLGFC Fish Fry • Make dinner for the family or a shut-in
Clothe the naked:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do a family clothing drive • Help with the parish coat drive • Donate clothes to a Women’s Center
Visit the sick:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit or write letters to a nursing home • Offer your service (without pay) to an elderly neighbor to do special projects like mowing, shoveling snow, raking leaves, weeding
Shelter the homeless:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participate in an OLGFC Outreach drive • Attend Jr. High Workcamp • Collect bathroom supplies for Lamb Center or St. Vincent de Paul Society • Help make or donate food to a homeless shelter
Visit the imprisoned:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect books to donate to a prison library
Bury the dead:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit a cemetery and pray there for the faithful departed • Attend a funeral

Spiritual Works of Mercy and Examples

Admonish the sinner:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gently correct someone who is misguided • Pray for the conversion of sinners
Instruct the ignorant:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help a younger sibling with homework • Help a younger sibling to learn prayers • Assist with outdoor OLGFC signs
Counsel the doubtful:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lend encouragement to someone who needs it
Comfort the sorrowing:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make cards for someone who is ill or who has lost a loved one
Bear wrongs patiently:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discuss an occasion when you ‘turned the other cheek’
Forgive all injuries:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make peace with those with whom you struggle or have problems
Pray for the living and the dead:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pray regularly as a family • Offer prayers for the souls in purgatory • Attend a Holy Hour; engage in Eucharistic Adoration

You must list the service projects that you completed on a sheet included. This can be turned in when completed or sent in as a scanned item through our online form. Your parent’s signature or the signature of the person who received the service is required to verify the service.

SERVICE HOURS AND INVOLVEMENT FORM

You must perform a minimum of six separate tasks that require at least an hour each or more of your time relating to three (3) different Corporal Works and three (3) different Spiritual Works.

List Your LGS Attendance and Youth Ministry Event Involvement. This list will also be available to submit electronically.

Name of Candidate: _____

Date	Corporal & Spiritual Works of Mercy	Number of Hours	Verification of Service Parent or Coordinators Signature	Additional notes/Description/Thoughts of Service/Event/Session
	OLGC Youth Ministry Event			
	<i>(7th Grade)</i>			
	<i>(8th Grade)</i>			
	Large Group Session Dates			
1. 2. 3.	<i>(7th Grade)</i>			
1. 2. 3.	<i>(8th Grade)</i>			