

#3

Seven Corporal Works of Mercy

Feed the Hungry

- No one wants to see a person starve ... especially children
- A simple picture of a starving child will stir our hearts to act ...
- We want to help ... to provide some food ... make sure people are fed ...

- Many of our parishes have regular food drives ...
- St. Richard has a food drive every first Sunday of the month ...
- Many people volunteer at soup kitchens ...
- Mike and Cathy Cahill ... Marquette Park ... bring the kids ...

- It's all about the nourishment we need to survive ...

- There are the deeper hungers ...
- To be known ... be recognized ... to be encouraged ...
- Some people are starving for just a little attention ...
- Young people ... the elderly ... the homebound ...
- They need to be fed

- Grandparents do this all the time ... the attention ... the joy ... teaching them how to pray ...
- Spouses find a way to feed each other ...
- **Bob & Betty Wagner** ... "you know you are my best friend" ...
- **Pope Francis** visit to Bolivia ... the favilla ... "they know they are not alone" ...

- Who are the hungry among us ???

Water for the Thirsty

- No one wants to see someone dying of thirst
- Lack of water ... dehydrates
- Shrivels the life out of a person ...

- All about quenching a dry throat ...
- Deepest thirst is to know we are loved ...

- Mother's love is critical ... desired and felt from the beginning

- Father's love is vital ... but more complicated ... for many uncertain
- 50 % unsure ... girls especially ... healthy when their father treats them with respect

- **Ray** ... Today was a terrific day ...
- Who are the thirsty ???

Clothe the Naked

- No one wants to see someone exposed to the harsh elements without proper cloths
- Dress warm ... cover your head ...
- Many parishes have clothing drives ... there are mechanisms to donate cloths to others ...

- All about making sure people are warm and protected ...

- Many ways people are stripped down and exposed to the harsh elements of life ...
- Ed finally promoted ... hated the work ...
- Ellen, his wife ... "the real failure would be to stay where you were miserable"

Welcome the Stranger

- We all know how important it is to feel welcome ...
- Tantor ... late in arriving ... "You are the Water Bearer"
- What??? ... learned that this job put me in contact with everyone!!

- Gestures of inclusion ... transformative ...

- **Michael Kane**

- Prince of Peace does this well!!!

Visiting the Sick

- When we are sick ... we are vulnerable
- Certain helplessness ...

- Important to know we are not alone
- **My classmate** ... he simply sat there ... all night long

- Who do we need to Visit???

Ransom the Captive

- 1500's ... rescue Christians being held captive ...
- This is all about securing the release of those who are bound ...

- Who is all tied up??
- **Jack** ... his father dying ... to his brother ... Come ... I can't ...

Bury the Dead

- Respect ... when a life is completed
- Hope ... in a future promised

- It is all about gratitude and trust ...

- **My sister ... "Now I am ready"**
- Not simply an end ... life is changed ... not ended ...

- We are grateful and we trust ...

We live and move and have our being ... in a mystery of love
God's great love ...
He wants us to know his love ... and bring his love to a waiting world ...

This lent ... we return to the source of that love ...
The fullness of God's love ... given to us in his Son ...

Let us be fed by that Love ... as we journey toward Easter ...