

Catechetical Resources on the Spiritual Works of Mercy

Office of Catechesis, Archdiocese of Indianapolis

1. **Sacred Scripture**
 - a. Matthew 5:1-12
 - b. Matthew 6:1-21
2. **Sacred Tradition**
 - a. **United States Catholic Catechism for Adults**
 - i. Page 529. "Spiritual Works of Mercy: These are actions that help our neighbor in their spiritual needs. They include counseling the doubtful, instructing the ignorant, admonishing the sinner, comforting the sorrowful, forgiving injuries, bearing wrongs patiently, and praying of the living and the dead."
 - b. **The Catechism of the Catholic Church (Part Three: Life in Christ)**
 - i. CCC 2447. "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, 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. Among all these, giving alms to the poor is one of the chief witnesses to fraternal charity: it is also a work of justice pleasing to God."
 - c. **Compendium of the Catechism of the Catholic Church**
 - i. **#414. How is human solidarity manifested?**

"Solidarity, which springs from human and Christian brotherhood, is manifested in the first place by the just distribution of goods, by a fair remuneration for work and by zeal for a more just social order. The virtue of solidarity also practices the sharing of the spiritual goods of faith which is even more important than sharing material goods."
3. **Jubilee of Mercy, Pastoral Resources**
 - a. Series of eight books promulgated by the Pontifical Council for the Promotion of the New Evangelization, and the official catechetical resources for the Jubilee Year of Mercy, available for purchase from Our Sunday Visitor. Titles include: *Corporal and Spiritual Works*
 - i. Online at: <http://www.iubilaeummisericordiae.va/content/gdm/en/sussidi.html>
4. **Vatican Radio: "Putting Mercy to Work: The Corporal and Spiritual works"**
 - a. This 15-episode audio series features Monsignor John Kennedy, an Official at the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, and looks at the Spiritual and Corporal works of mercy and how they impact our lives today. Each episode is available online, at no cost.
 - b. Link to Vatican Radio Program "Putting Mercy to Work":
 - i. http://en.radiovaticana.va/news/2015/08/08/putting_mercy_to_work_the_corporal_and_spiritual_works/1163823
5. **National Catholic Register Blog by Philip Kosloski**
 - a. Catholic blogger writes series on Spiritual Works of Mercy including: "Admonish the Sinner": Pope Francis and the Third Spiritual Work of Mercy
 - i. Online at: <http://www.ncregister.com/blog/philip-kosloski/>