

HOME PROJECTS FOR MARCH

MERCY—caring for those who suffer

Grades Pre-K-2—Saint John Vianney

1. Look for those who are hurt on the playground or elsewhere and help them. (Be careful, it's not helpful if there is a big crowd of people trying to help). Sometimes just staying with the person helps.
2. Donate food or clothes to those in need.
3. Pray for someone you know who is suffering. It could be someone close to you, or a group of people in another part of the world.

Grades 3-5—Saint Faustina

Choose one of the spiritual or corporal works of mercy and choose a way to practice it this month. If you choose a spiritual work of mercy, make sure you understand what type of suffering it relieves.

Spiritual Works of Mercy	Corporal Works of Mercy
1. Admonish the sinner.	1. Feed the hungry.
2. Instruct the ignorant	2. Give drink to the thirsty.
3. Counsel the doubtful.	3. Clothe the naked.
4. Comfort the sorrowful.	4. Visit the imprisoned.
5. Bear wrongs patiently.	5. Shelter the homeless.
6. Forgive all injuries.	6. Visit the sick.
7. Pray for the living and the dead.	7. Bury the dead.

Grades 6-8—Blessed Teresa of Calcutta

1. "A joy shared is a joy doubled; a sorrow shared is a sorrow divided." Ask someone you know about what causes them suffering, especially in their heart. Fully open your heart to listening to them with loving concern. Show mercy by your care for them, and help to carry their cross by praying for that intention this month.
2. Discuss the relationship between the virtues of mercy and forgiveness. Are all acts of mercy acts of forgiveness? Are all acts of forgiveness acts of mercy? How does lack of forgiveness cause suffering? Choose something from your discussion to practice this month.
3. Practice one of the spiritual or corporal works of mercy (see above).