

## Works of Mercy

As young Catholics preparing for their Sacrament of Confirmation, we ask our young people to heighten their awareness of those with needs whom they encounter in their daily lives, or become aware of through other means. In a faithful Christian, this awareness should lead to action... "How can I address this need? How can I help improve this situation?"

In our Catholic tradition, we call this action ***The Works of Mercy***. Performing these actions does not always mean coming up with a big project, it is more about awareness, daily awareness of those who may have a need that I can help, rather than being indifferent and non-caring. These people may be in my family, neighbors, friends, or organized groups that solicit help for causes. Parents have all along been forming these attitudes in their children, we are now calling their attention to it.

So, we now ask that as your child is in this immediate time of preparation for Confirmation, they consciously try to live out these Works of Mercy. During these times in our world, afflicted by pandemic and job losses, there seem to be endless opportunities for living the Works of Mercy. Perhaps, as a family, you are reaching out and answering some needs of which you are aware. All of this is good preparation of heart for receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation.

