

The Corporal Works of Mercy

Shelter the Homeless

Food for Thought

“For I was ... a stranger and you welcomed me.”

– *The Gospel of Matthew 25:35*

Daily Life

- Connect with Catholic Charities and learn more about the services they offer (and how you can help) at 707-528-8712 or <https://www.srcharities.org/>
- Become familiar with the Online Homeless Resource Guide at www.sonomacountyhomeless.org
- Learn more about foster care at the following websites:
 - Alternative Family Services:
<https://www.afs4kids.org/become-foster-parent/>
 - V.O.I.C.E.S (drop in center)
<https://www.voicesyouthcenter.org/>
 - Social Advocates for Youth (S.A.Y.)
<https://www.saysc.org/>
- Practice hospitality (safely and creatively) either in person or at a distance
- Talk with your family about their thoughts about homelessness, and discuss how we each might help those who are struggling to find safe shelter at this difficult time

Questions to Contemplate

Read Mercy in the City by Kerry Weber

In what ways may we need shelter?

What does Hospitality mean to you? In what ways do you offer hospitality to those around you? Can you think of ways to continue offering hospitality safely in this time of COVID? Thinking about those in our community who do not have stable or safe shelter, consider some of the daily challenges they face, and how we as a community can support them in our personal lives and as a larger community.

- (Chapter 13): Kerry’s open-door policy for houseguests has resulted in both positive and negative experiences for her, with the positive greatly outweighing the negative. Can you describe a time when you opened yourself to the unknown? What happened?
- (Chapter 15): When was the last time you attended the Stations of the Cross? How did it make you feel?
- (Chapter 16): In what ways do you take the life-giving waters of God’s grace for granted? What “dams” in your life are preventing you from letting in the water of God?

For Further Consideration

YouTube video of Kerry Weber discussing this Corporal Work of Mercy: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=accalTuau5k>

The Works of Mercy by Pope Francis,
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