

MERCY WELLSPRINGS

FORMATION MOMENT



Mercy
Wellsprings

Fuentes de la
Misericordia

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Self - Reflection:

Pope Francis reminded us that *“the works of mercy are not theoretical ideas, but concrete testimonies. They oblige us to roll up our sleeves to alleviate suffering.”*

What are some of the contemporary issues in response to which we are called to ‘roll up our sleeves’ and engage in Works of Mercy?

Think about your current role. How might you nurture a culture of ‘cheerful response to need’ amongst those with whom you work?

For more Formation Information please visit:

[Formation page](#)

[Formation Moments page](#)



THE WORKS OF MERCY

THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat.

I was thirsty, and you gave me something to drink.

I was a stranger, and you invited me in.

I needed clothes, and you clothed me.

I was sick, and you looked after me.

I was in prison, and you came to visit me.

Bury the dead.

THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

Instruct the ignorant.

Counsel the doubtful.

Admonish the sinners.

Be patient with those who do wrong to us.

Forgive offences.

Comfort the afflicted.

Pray for the living and the dead.

“We can never say “it is enough.”
- Catherine McAuley

The 8th Work of Mercy

I was Earth, broken and wounded, and you cared for me.

Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me. (Matthew 25:40)

The [Corporal Works of Mercy](#) address material and physical needs, whilst the [Spiritual Works of Mercy](#) address emotional and spiritual needs. All of these find their basis in Scripture. They are drawn mostly from the words and actions of Jesus as Jesus showed mercy and compassion in so many ways to so many people. *The seven corporal works are practical and involve how we serve those around us in need of mercy — they are about our external expression of God's mercy to others. The seven spiritual works concern our inner disposition — the values and attitudes in our hearts that allow us to see all of humankind, including ourselves, as needing mercy and to respond in humility and sincerity to others.* All the works of mercy underpinned the work of Catherine McAuley and the Sisters of Mercy and continue to do so to this day.

“IT IS BETTER TO RELIEVE A HUNDRED IMPOSTORS — IS THERE BE ANY SUCH — THAN TO SUFFER ONE REALLY DISTRESSED PERSON TO BE SENT AWAY EMPTY.”