LIVING FAITH

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

ROMAN CATHOLIC
ARCHDIOCESE OF ST. JOHN'S



THE GOSPEL FOR TODAY

Matthew 25:14-30

‘For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, “Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.” His master said to him, “Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.”

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

Jesus teaches in parables in order to give us glimpses of what God is like. People often think that the Kingdom of Heaven is a place or a state of being that will exist after our earthly life is finished; but this is not the Kingdom that Jesus speaks of so often in His stories. The Kingdom of Heaven that Jesus speaks of, the Kingdom that He worked so hard to bring about, is possible here on earth, if we love one another. In the Kingdom of Heaven, people are like the slave who was good and trustworthy, who carefully tend and nurture all that the master gave him, making it grow and flourish and increase. Does this mean money? Maybe, but probably not! Does this mean nurturing and developing the gifts and talents that God gave us? We might be getting closer, particularly if we add to that list placing our gifts and talents at the service of others!

What if this parable is a call from Jesus to tend and nurture the people around us, our family members, our classmates, our neighbours? What if it is a call from Jesus to be attentive to, to tend and nurture those left behind by others in society?

Jesus tell us to love our neighbours. In loving our neighbours in practical, simple, meaningful ways, we love God. This is how the Kingdom is built.

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The Parable of the Talents



But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. Matthew 25:18

Each number represents a letter of the alphabet. Substitute the correct letter for the numbers to reveal the coded words.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
R	N	J	Z	M	C	W	L	O	K	Q	S	I	T	D	F	E	P	U	V	H	X	G	Y	A	B

1. 12-21-25-1-17 _____
2. 16-25-13-14-21-16-19-8 _____
3. 21-13-15-17 _____
4. 5-9-2-17-24 _____
5. 23-9-9-15 _____
6. 12-17-1-20-25-2-14 _____
7. 3-9-19-1-2-17-24 _____
8. 25-16-1-25-13-15 _____
9. 8-25-4-24 _____
10. 21-25-18-18-13-2-17-12-12 _____

FAITHFUL	GOOD	HAPPINESS	SHARE	AFRAID
LAZY	JOURNEY	SERVANT	MONEY	HIDE

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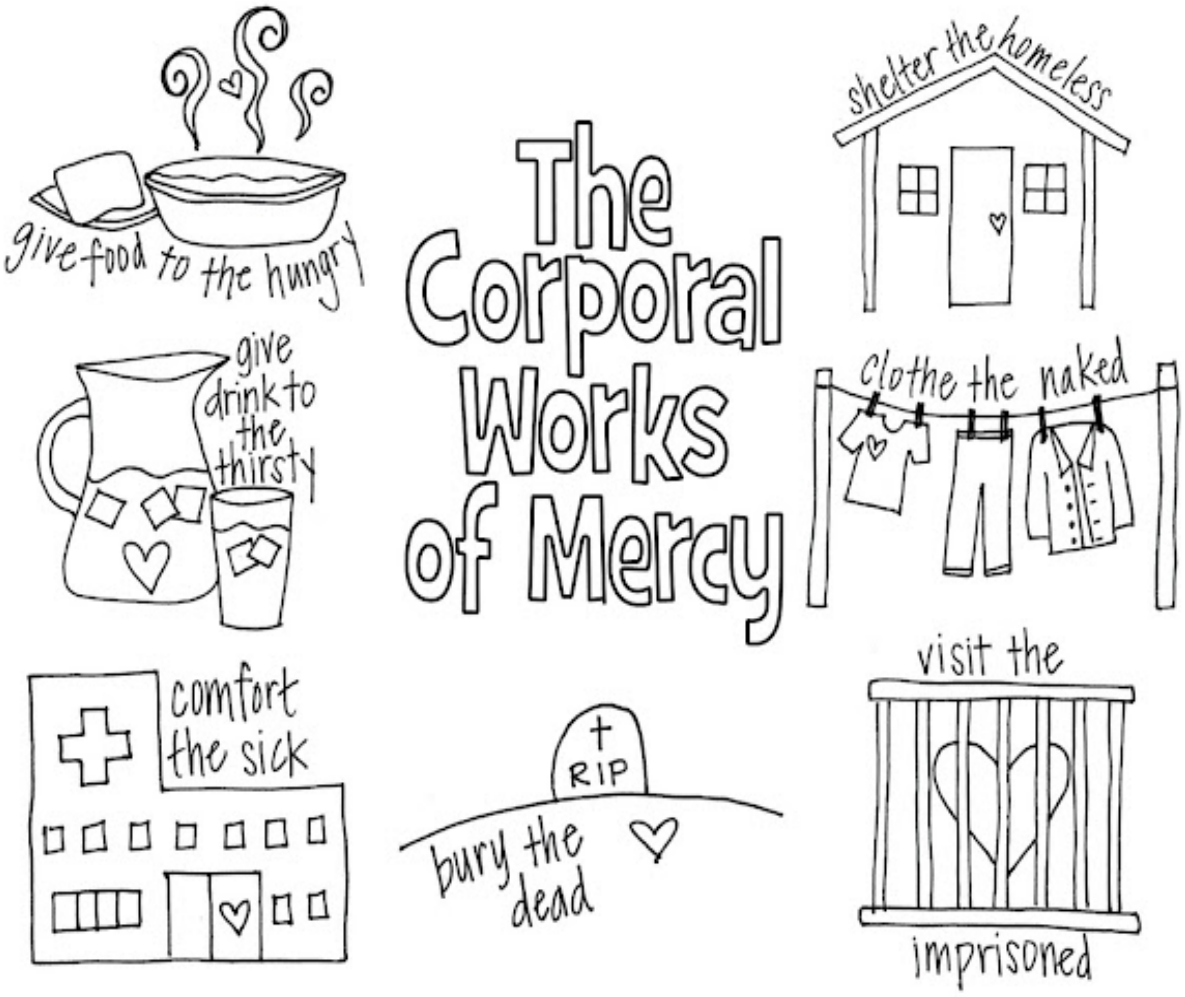
MERCY IS LOVE IN ACTION
THE CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY

IDEAS FOR FAMILIES...

The Corporal Works of Mercy are found in the teachings of Jesus (Matthew 25), and give us a model for how we should treat all others, as if they were Christ in disguise. They are charitable actions by which we help our neighbors in their bodily needs. They respond to the basic needs of humanity as we journey together through this life.

What are some ways our family can apply these works of Mercy?





SAINTS AND BLESSED OF CANADA

Blessed Marie-Rose Durocher



Blessed Marie Rose Durocher is patron of those who are sick. Today, some 1,000 Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary educate children in Canada, the United States, Africa, and South America.

Blessed Marie Rose Durocher, you were the Canadian nun who brought Christian education to the frontier--pray for us!

Eulalie Durocher was born on October 6, 1811, at St. Antoine in Quebec, Canada. She was the youngest of ten children. Marie-Rose thought about becoming a sister, but her health was not good enough. When Marie-Rose was 18 and her mother died, she began to work in her brother's parish in Beloeil, not far from Montreal. For 13 years she was housekeeper, hostess, and parish worker. Her goodness earned her the title the saint of Beloeil.

In 1843, she was invited by Bishop Bourget to found a new congregation of women dedicated to Christian education. Accordingly she founded the Sisters of the Holy Names of Jesus and Mary and took the religious name of Marie Rose. Under her saintly and wise leadership, her community flourished in spite of all kinds of obstacles, including great poverty and unavoidable misunderstandings. She remained unswerving in her concern for the poor.

The six years Marie-Rose lived as a sister were filled with poverty, difficulty, and sickness. She practiced penance and was quite strict with her community. A great love for the crucified Jesus gave her strength. Marie-Rose's order was devoted to religious education for children who were poor.

Worn out by her labours, Marie Rose died on October 6, 1849, at the age of thirty-eight. She was declared Blessed by Pope John Paul II on May 23, 1982. Her feast day is October 6.

View a short video about Blessed Marie-Rose here:
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eiV4NC2rqi4