

Good Shepherd Middle & High School Faith Formation Confirmation Service Project 2020 ACTS OF MERCY

As part of your preparation to receive the sacrament of Confirmation, we ask you to serve your neighbor. Why? Because when you receive the sacrament of Confirmation, you choose to be a disciple of Jesus in the Catholic Church. To be a disciple is to be a student, or follower, of Jesus, who taught us with his words and by his actions that we must love and serve one another.

I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another. - John 13: 34-35

So, here is your project!

WHEN

From Sunday, April 19 (Divine Mercy Sunday) to Sunday, May 31 (Pentecost Sunday).

WHAT

STEP 1:

You will perform Acts of Mercy for people in your family and in your community.

- In this packet you will find an Acts of Mercy log.
- Print it and write your full name at the top of the log.
- If you do not have a printer at home, create your own log on a blank sheet of paper and use that.
- Every time you do an Act of Mercy, write down what you did, for whom, and the date on your log.
- If you already did community service this year, start this new log with what you did. Then add any new Acts of Mercy after the entries of what you did before Divine Mercy Sunday.

STEP 2:

On Sunday, May 31 - Pentecost Sunday – reflect on your six weeks of doing acts of mercy.

- Complete the reflection questions on the page after the log. You can write your responses neatly in the space provided, or if your handwriting is messy you can type your answers on a separate sheet.
- Take a picture of your reflection page and email it to Ms. Rosie at r.driscoll@gs-cc.org on Monday, June 1 (We will share your photos in the Good Shepherd Gathers slideshow, so don't write your name on this).
- Staple your log and your reflection questions together to turn in once the church reopens. Date to be determined.

What Are Acts of Mercy?

Mercy means to feel compassion for someone in need or in distress.

Acts of mercy are the fruit of that feeling; they are acts of service in which you sacrifice yourself for the good of another (like Jesus did).

Acts of mercy in your home could be acts in which you do something to help someone in your family (that you are not already required to do, like required chores).

Look around and ask yourself:

- What are the needs of each of my family members?
- How can I meet their needs?

Acts of mercy in the community are more challenging during this time when we are staying home due to the coronavirus. Look around – are there ways that you can help people outside your home while maintaining social distance? Here are some ideas:

- Are there neighbors in need for whom you can do outside chores such as mow the lawn, pull weeds, plant flowers?
- Can you write encouraging notes and leave them in neighbors' mailboxes?
- Can you bake treats or cook meals for neighbors?
- Can you collect non-perishable food from your friends and neighbors and deliver donations to Good Shepherd's Sharing Sunday Bin?
- Can you call or video chat a relative or friend who is lonely?
- Do you sing or play an instrument? Can you perform for neighbors on their lawns or porches while maintaining social distance?

See the Good Shepherd Gathers LIVE page each week for opportunities to do Acts of Mercy. When you scroll down the LIVE page you will also see opportunities from past weeks, including ways to help Good Shepherd community partners such as United Community and Christ House.

(Make sure that you have permission from your parent(s) before doing anything outside your home.)

Good Shepherd Middle & High School Faith Formation
ACTS OF MERCY REFLECTION QUESTIONS

1. Which act of mercy brought you the most joy? Why?

2. What is the most important lesson you learned from your acts of mercy? Why is this lesson important to you?

Write a Bible passage that relates to your acts of mercy here: