

# *IMPLEMENTING THE YEAR OF MERCY*

## *MAKING IT HAPPEN—MAKING IT REAL*

FROM THE DIOCESAN LITURGICAL COMMISSION ~ DIOCESE OF DALLAS

### *Making Mercy Prayerful*

- Holy Hour Monthly Prayer
- Weekly “Mercy Petition” at Sunday Mass
- Spiritual Acts of Mercy
- Use of “Mercy” dismissal at all Masses
- Year of Mercy Retreats
- Offer Sacrament of Penance more often
- Pass Mercy candle among families (w/Prayer)
- Chaplet of Divine Mercy
- Mercy Prayer before Mass



### *Sounds of Mercy*

- Choir Prelude – every week, sing a song (text) about mercy
- Concert for Year of Mercy
- Sing official hymn at Mass monthly

### *Promoting Mercy*

- Preach on Spiritual & Corporal Acts of Mercy
- Petition the bishop to designate 10 Holy Doors throughout the diocese during Easter
- Pilgrimage to the Church w/Door of Mercy
- March for the Divine Mercy

### *Mercy in Action*

- Have the Church ask for Mercy
- Catechesis units on Mercy in religious education
- Parish Staff “Mercy Morning” instead of Staff meeting—go out, be merciful, report next week
- Mercy Monday: at home, at work, at school, after school, at sports practice

## ***Making Mercy Real***

- RCIA Group omit a session: send all to do a work of Mercy, report back next session
- Monthly Parish Mercy project (different groups volunteer/do different merciful actions)
- Holy Hour Volunteering
  - Nursing Home
  - Feed Homeless
  - Hold baby at Hospital
  - Visit someone who is lonely or who has no visitors
- Show Mercy to Homeless
- Corporal Acts of Mercy
- (EXTRA) food collections on Sundays
- Calling up vs. Calling out
- Work of Mercy (service) each grade at school
- Day of service – do work of mercy. Repeat.

## ***Making Mercy Visual***

- Story Contest for “Year of Mercy” (at home, work, school)
- Slide show on Parish website: “What Mercy looks like” with real people
- Art Contest
- Mercy Tree
- Monthly Feature “Works of Mercy”
- Post brief mercy video on YouTube

## ***Reflections from the Think-Tank Committee for the Year of***

### ***Mercy* from the Diocesan Liturgical Commission**

**As Church, we ought to *ask* for mercy during this year, while simultaneously *offering* mercy. We ought to ask the question, “who have we hurt?” Reconciliation is the difficult response—but a necessary one.**

**What if your church made a banner or bought a billboard: We Offer Mercy, We Seek Mercy**

**See what mercy looks like: is there a genuine spirit of welcoming in the parish and school community—at Mass, at meetings, at meals, while doing service for others, while learning, as we labor together?**

**Always remember the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.**

Question to consider in the home, parish, work or school community: do we spend enough time demonstrating the Catholic life? What makes us unique?

Door-to-door: door hangars, wreaths, signs of welcome “Mercy Lives Here”

Monthly Reconciliation service in the parish—at a convenient time for individuals, groups, and families: pray for mercy, provide Sacrament of Penance

Sign on your Reconciliation Room: Enter This Door of Mercy

We need mercy, we have access to mercy, and we have a duty to show mercy.

Every week at Sunday Mass, pray one intention (for the Year of Mercy and) for each other:  
*That the parish of St. Suffering Servant show mercy to ....., we pray to the Lord.*  
*(ex. those whom we dislike, those who are sick, those who are hurting in mind or body, those who suffer difficulty at work or in their homes, those who aren't with us today, those who struggle with vocation decisions, those who lead others at work or at school...)*

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