

“What Comes After the Jubilee Year of Mercy?”

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September 14, 2016

Prayer of Pope Francis for the Jubilee

(<http://www.im.va/content/gdm/en/giubileo/preghiera.html>)

Lord Jesus Christ,

you have taught us to be merciful like the heavenly Father,

and have told us that whoever sees you sees Him.

Show us your face and we will be saved.

Your loving gaze freed Zacchaeus and Matthew from being enslaved by money;

the adulteress and Magdalene from seeking happiness only in created things;

made Peter weep after his betrayal,

and assured Paradise to the repentant thief.

Let us hear, as if addressed to each one of us, the words that you spoke to the Samaritan woman:

“If you knew the gift of God!”

You are the visible face of the invisible Father,

of the God who manifests his power above all by forgiveness and mercy:

let the Church be your visible face in the world, its Lord risen and glorified.

You willed that your ministers would also be clothed in weakness

in order that they may feel compassion for those in ignorance and error:

let everyone who approaches them feel sought after, loved, and forgiven by God.

Send your Spirit and consecrate every one of us with its anointing,

so that the Jubilee of Mercy may be a year of grace from the Lord,

and your Church, with renewed enthusiasm, may bring good news to the poor,

proclaim liberty to captives and the oppressed,

and restore sight to the blind.

We ask this of you, Lord Jesus, through the intercession of Mary, Mother of

Mercy; you who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever.

Amen.

<i>Misericordiae Vultus</i> , 15.	“Let us open our eyes and see the misery of the world, the wounds of our brothers and sisters who are denied their dignity, and let us recognize that we are compelled to heed their cry for help”
<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> , page 888.	Defines mercy as “ <i>The loving kindness, compassion, or forbearance shown to one who offends (e.g., the mercy of God to us sinners).</i> ”
<i>Misericordiae Vultus</i> , 10.	“We must admit that the practice of mercy is waning in the wider culture”
<i>Misericordiae Vultus</i> , 6.	“Saint Thomas Aquinas’ words show that God’s mercy, rather than a sign of weakness, is the mark of omnipotence.” Summa II-II q30 a.4.
<i>Mercy in the Fathers of the Church</i> , 10.	“In the most ancient Greek thinking, which is broadly reflected in the Homeric poems, mercy is considered one of the noblest virtues.” Yet Plato saw it as a “disease of the soul” (10-11) and as a “human weakness.”
<i>Misericordiae Vultus</i> , 4.	Quoting from Pope Paul VI at the end of the council “Errors were condemned, indeed, because charity demanded this no less than did truth, but for individuals themselves there was only admonition, respect and love.”
<i>Misericordiae Vultus</i> , 1.	“Jesus Christ is the face of the Father’s mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith.”
Matthew 5:7	“Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.”
Matthew 9:13	“Go and learn the meaning of ‘I desire mercy not sacrifice’. I have come not to call the righteous, but sinners”.
John 8:11	“Then Jesus said, “Neither do I condemn you. Go, and from now on do not sin anymore.”
<i>Compendium</i> , 391.	“What does the acceptance of God’s mercy require from us? It requires that we admit our faults and repent of our sins.”
Matthew 18:22	“I say to you, not seven times, but seventy- seven times.” Cf. Matthew 18:21-35, Parable of the Unforgiving Servant
<i>Mercy in the Fathers of the Church</i> , 9.	“The invitation to be merciful “even as your Father is merciful” (Lk 6:36) was often translated by the Fathers of the Church as an invitation to true perfection, evangelical perfection-that is, the common calling of all Christians to sainthood.”
<i>Confession, the Sacrament of Mercy</i> , 5-6.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “widespread disaffection” • “denial of its usefulness” • “forgiveness is a purely private affair” • “uncomfortable confessing their sins to a priest” • “disappointment at the unavailability of priests and well-prepared confessions”

<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> , 1847.	“To receive his mercy, we must admit our faults. “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” 1 John 8-9.”
<i>United States Catholic Catechism for Adults</i> , 236.	“The Sacrament of Penance must be seen within the context of conversion from sin and a turn to God.”
<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> , page 872.	Contrition is defined in the glossary as “Sorrow of the soul and hatred for the sin committed, together with a resolution not to sin again. Contrition is the most important act of the penitent, and is necessary for the reception of the Sacrament of Penance.”
<i>United States Catholic Catechism for Adults</i> , 238.	“When other motives, such as the ugliness of sin or fear of damnation, bring us to confession, this is called “imperfect contrition,” which is sufficient for forgiveness in the Sacrament.”
James 5:14-15	<i>“Is anyone among you sick? He should summon the presbyters of the church, and they should pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of Lord, and the prayer of faith will save the sick person, and the Lord will raise him up. If he has committed any sins, he will be forgiven.”</i>
<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> , 1513.	“Through this holy anointing may the Lord in his love and MERCY help you with the grace of the Holy Spirit. May the Lord who frees you from sin save you and raise you up.”
<i>Compendium</i> , 339.	“How does sin threaten marriage? Because of original sin, which caused a rupture in the God-given communion between man and woman, the union of marriage is very often threatened by discord and infidelity. However, God in his infinite mercy gives to man and woman the grace to bring the union of their lives into accord with the original divine plan.”
<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> , 1606.	Every man experiences evil around him and within himself. This experience makes itself felt in the relationships between man and woman. Their union has always been threatened by discord, a spirit of domination, infidelity, jealousy, and conflicts that can escalate into hatred and separation. This disorder can manifest itself more or less acutely, and can be more or less overcome according to the circumstances of cultures, eras, and individuals, but it does seem to have a universal character.”
<i>Beautiful Mercy</i> , 101	“To take notice of needs and afflictions is the first step of mercy.”
James 2:14-17	“What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,” but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead.”

<i>The Corporal Works and Spiritual Works of Mercy</i> , 15.	“The word for mercy in Latin is <i>Misericordia</i> . The etymology of the word derives from the Latin <i>misere</i> (misery, necessity) and <i>cord/cordis</i> (heart) and is identified with having a heart full of solidarity with those in need.”
Matthew 9:36	“At the sight of the crowds, his heart was moved with pity for them because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd.”
Matthew 14:4	“When he disembarked and saw the vast crowd, his heart was moved with pity for them, and he cured their sick.”
<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> , 2447.	“The works of mercy are charitable actions by which we come to the aid of our neighbor in his spiritual and bodily necessities.”
<i>The Corporal Works and Spiritual Works of Mercy</i> , 37.	“In short, since hunger is the symbol of the need for real food, the Gospel of John states that Jesus alone can satisfy it, being himself “the bread of life” (John 6:35).”
<i>The Corporal Works and Spiritual Works of Mercy</i> , 38.	“It also has a deeper meaning linked to Jesus’ ardent desire to return to the Father according to the invocation of the psalmist: “O God... for you my soul thirsts” (Ps 63:1-2)... These resonate with the emphatic request, “Give me a drink!” (John 4:7), spoken to the Samaritan woman by Jesus.”
Leviticus 19:34	<i>“You shall treat the alien who resides with you no differently than the natives born among you; you shall love the alien as yourself; for you too were once aliens in the land of Egypt. I, the Lord, am your God.”</i>
<i>Catechism of the Catholic Church</i> , 1500.	“Illness and suffering have always been among the gravest problems confronted in human life. In illness, man experiences his powerlessness, his limitations, and his finitude. Every illness can make us glimpse death.”
<i>The Corporal Works and Spiritual Works of Mercy</i> , 43.	““Do not shrink from visiting a sick man, because for such deeds you will be loved” (Sir 7:35). This text expresses the Jewish understanding which emphasizes the visitor and not the sick.”
Hebrews 13:3	“Be mindful of prisoners as if sharing their imprisonment.”
<i>Misericordiae Vultus</i> , 21.	“Mercy is not opposed to justice but rather expresses God’s way of reaching out to the sinner, offering him a new chance to look at himself, convert, and believe.”
<i>The Corporal Works and Spiritual Works of Mercy</i> , 45.	“Important examples include the proximity of the community through intercessory prayer to Peter who was imprisoned: “So Peter was kept in prison; but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the Church” (Acts 12:5). For his part, Paul expresses his gratitude for the closeness of Christians in Philippi during his detention, as well as the aid he received (see Phil 1:13, 17; 2:25; 4:15-18)”
<i>The Corporal Works and Spiritual Works of Mercy</i> , 46.	“In Israel, to be deprived of burial was seen as a horrible evil (see Ps 79:3)”

<i>The Corporal Works and Spiritual Works of Mercy</i> , 50.	“Biblical tradition stresses the importance of counsel: “In an abundance of counselors there is safety” (Prv 11:14).”
<i>The Corporal Works and Spiritual Works of Mercy</i> , 51.	“Do you understand what you are reading?” (Acts 8:30), Philip asks the official reading the prophet Isaiah. And the reply is, “How can I, unless one guides me?” (v.31).”
<i>The Corporal Works and Spiritual Works of Mercy</i> , 53.	“In this sense, then, it should be noted that correction should be made not as a judgment, but as a service of truth and love, since it addresses the sinner not as an enemy but as a brother (see 2 Thes 3:15). It can thus result in leading a brother who was becoming lost back to life (Jas 5:19). This fraternal correction is to be exercised firmly (see Ti 1:13), but without harshness (Ps 6:2), without exacerbating or humiliating the one admonished (Eph 6:4).”
Matthew 5:38-46	“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ But I say to you, Do not resist one who is evil... Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you... For if you love those love you, what reward have you? Do not even the tax collectors do the same?”
<i>The Corporal Works and Spiritual Works of Mercy</i> , 59.	“In short, “Christian prayer is a covenant relationship between God and man in Christ” (<i>Catechism</i> , 2564) and therefore sustains all the works of mercy.”
<i>The Corporal Works and Spiritual Works of Mercy</i> , 60.	“St. Ignatius Loyola made it more explicit when he said, “Pray as if everything depended on God and work as if everything depended on you” (see <i>Catechism</i> , 2834).”
<i>The Corporal Works and Spiritual Works of Mercy</i> , 60.	Prayer “sums up the others”
<i>Saints in Mercy</i> , 30.	“And many of her sisters later said that they completely understand that Eucharistic expression “the Real Presence of Jesus” when touching the aching limbs of the sick.” (<i>Saints in Mercy</i> , 30).
<i>Mercy in the Teachings of the Popes</i> , 49-50.	“The Church must consider it one of her principal duties – at every stage of history and especially in our modern age – to proclaim and to introduce into life the mystery of mercy, supremely revealed in Jesus Christ” (<i>Dives in Misericordia</i> , 14).”
<i>Celebrating Mercy</i> , 19.	“The specific vocation of pastors and sacred ministers is to make visible, particularly through the celebration of the sacraments and the words and gestures of the liturgy, the Father’s mercy and his care for each of his children expressed in the gift of sacramental grace.”

	<p>How often is Mercy referred to in EVERY Mass?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We begin with the Sign of the Cross – recalls Jesus’ mercy on the Cross • Penitential Rite <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The theme is mercy ○ Depending on option chosen can explicitly refer to mercy ○ May almighty God have <i>mercy</i> on us.... ○ Not the same forgiveness as going to confession • Gloria – “mercy” explicitly used twice • Opening prayer, reading, homilies often refer to mercy • Creed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>For our sake he was crucified</i> ○ <i>The forgiveness of sins</i> • In the Prayers of the Faithful, we seek God’s mercy (help) • Eucharistic Prayer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Calls to mind Jesus giving up his body for us, his blood shed for us, <i>Sacrifice of Jesus</i> reveals God’s mercy ○ Reception of Communion gives us strength • Our Father <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ <i>Give us this day our daily bread</i> ○ <i>Forgive us as we forgive others</i> • Doxology at end of the Lord’s Prayer uses “mercy” • Lamb of God – <i>have mercy on us</i> <p>End with Sign of the Cross – again the face of the Father’s mercy</p>
<p><i>Misericordiae Vultus</i>, 4.</p>	<p>“We recall the poignant words of Saint John XXIII when, opening the Council, he indicated the path to follow: “Now the Bride of Christ wishes to use the medicine of mercy rather than the taking up the arms of severity.... Show her herself a loving mother to all.”</p>
<p><i>Celebrating Mercy</i>, 7.</p>	<p>“Above all else, the Jubilee of Mercy needs to be celebrated. The symbolic words and rituals that make it up culminate in the liturgical celebration by which the whole Church prays and intensely lives the mystery of her existence as communion.”</p>
<p><i>Misericordiae Vultus</i>, 10.</p>	<p>“Mercy is the very foundation of the Church’s life. All of her pastoral activity should be caught up in the tenderness she makes present to believers/ nothing in her preaching and in her witness to the world can be lacking in mercy. The Church’s very credibility is seen in how she shows merciful and compassionate love. The Church “has an endless desire to show mercy.”</p>
<p><i>Confession, the Sacrament of Mercy</i>, 25.</p>	<p>“As Pope Francis reminded us, “The problem is not that we are sinners, but that we do not allow ourselves to be transformed by the encounter with Christ in love” (Homily, May 17, 2013).”</p>

<p><i>Beautiful Mercy</i>, 5.</p>	<p>“For thousands of years God has been using ordinary people to do extraordinary things. He delights in dynamic collaboration with humanity. He doesn’t necessarily choose the people who are the best educated or who are good looking; he doesn’t choose people because they are in positions of power and authority; he doesn’t always choose the most eloquent and persuasive. There is one type of person God has used powerfully throughout history: He does incredible things with the people who make themselves available to him; it is the prerequisite for mission.”</p>
<p><i>Misericordiae Vultus</i>, 16.</p>	<p>“May the words of the Apostle accompany us: he who does acts of mercy, let him do them with cheerfulness (cf. Rom 12:8).”</p>

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Two days after I gave my first presentation about the Jubilee Year of Mercy, on December 2, 2015, there was a mass shooting in San Bernardino, CA. The following weekend Fr. Jeff spoke about the shooting and mercy in his homily. You can read his homily at <http://blog.renewaloffaith.org/blog/?p=1731>

To view Fr. Jeff's previous presentations on the Year of Mercy, go to <http://www.renewaloffaith.org/the-jubilee-year-of-mercy.html> .

To learn more about the Sacrament of Reconciliation, please watch Fr. Jeff's previous videos on this sacrament at <http://www.renewaloffaith.org/reconciliation.html>

Corporal Works of Mercy		
Feed the hungry	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew 25:35 • Isaiah 58:7a • Tobit 1:16-17 • Tobit 4:16 	<p>What can you do?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donate to food pantries (time or food) and/or support programs like Stop Hunger • Fast in recognition of others who go without • Offer food to elderly neighbor • Support farmers and the environment
Give drink to the thirsty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew 25:35 • Job 22:7 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consume less water <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Watering garden • Watering lawn in drought • How much laundry (change of clothes)?
Welcome the Stranger	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew 25:35 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate and improvement how we treat strangers and immigrants. • Support local immigrant and migrant populations • Donation to a shelter
Clothe the naked	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew 25:36 • Job 22:5-6 • Isaiah 58:7b • Tobit 1:16-17 • Tobit 4:16 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Donate clothing – Catholic Charities Clothing Closet
Visit the sick	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew 25:36 • Sirach 7:35 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit the sick/take Communion • Shovel sidewalk for elderly neighbor
Visit the prisoners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew 25:36 • Isaiah 58:6 • Isaiah 61:1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting the families of the imprisoned
Bury the dead	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tobit 1:16-18 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dignified burial

Spiritual Works of Mercy		
Counseling the doubtful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proverbs 11:14 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rather than offering unsolicited advice, do this with an attitude that shows we care
Instructing the ignorant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isaiah 61:1 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “To lead people to discover both their capacity to know the truth and their yearning for the ultimate and definitive meaning of life.” <i>The Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy</i>, 52. • Attend sessions like this to learn more • Volunteer as a catechist for children’s religious education classes.
Admonishing the sinner	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John 8:1-11 • 2 Thessalonians 3:15 • James 5:19 • Titus 1:13 • Psalm 6:2 • Ephesians 6:4 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speak up for what you believe in, pray for wisdom/courage to do this • Importance of timing for when we speak up
Comforting the sorrowful	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isaiah 40:1 • Isaiah 61:2 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Calling hours • Take food • Show we care!
Forgiving injuries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew 5:38-46 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FORGIVE!
Bearing wrongs patiently	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Job 1:21 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Think before speaking/acting
Praying for the living and the dead		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PRAY!