



CORPORAL WORKS OF MERCY WEEK #7: Bury the Dead

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: 2 Mc 7:1-2, 9-14 • 2 Thes 2:16-3:5
Lk 20:27-38

In the first reading, The Maccabees face death rather than deny their faith so they might share in the resurrection. The woman whose husbands had died is challenged to look beyond this life to the resurrection.

“In Christ the hope of blessed resurrection has dawned, that those saddened by the certainty of dying, might be consoled by the promise of immortality to come. Indeed for your faithful, Lord, life is changed not ended, and, when this earthly dwelling turns to dust, an eternal dwelling is made ready for them in heaven.” (from Preface I for the Dead)

This is the seventh Works of Mercy week observed in the Archdiocese where all parishes focus upon a work of mercy during the week. Thus far, we have joined other parishes in focusing upon the following: give drink to the thirsty, visit the imprisoned, feed the hungry, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, and visit the sick

How can you or your family practice this corporal work of mercy?

- Go to parish wakes and funerals
- Visit widows and widowers
- Help care for local cemeteries
- Pray for dead
- Do yard work and snow removal for widows and widowers
- Send sympathy cards
- Provide food for wakes and funeral dinners
- Support or volunteer at a hospice
- Participate in a bereavement ministry
- Take friends and relatives to visit the cemetery
- Support ministries that offer free Christian burials to those unable to afford one
- Offer daily prayers for those with terminal illnesses and for those who have died
- Send Mass cards to families of those who have died

Grief Support Groups:

- *Compassionate Friends*
For those who have lost a loved one.
Meets the fourth Thursday of each month, 7 – 8:30 p.m.
Mercy Medical Center, Conference Room 1B, 250 Mercy Drive, Dubuque
Contact: 563-590-2292

- *Grief Support Group*
This is a free, confidential support group that provides emotional comfort and moral support to anyone grieving the death of a significant person in their life. Facilitated by a Mercy chaplain, attendees are offered practical advice and coping tips through videos, speakers, member sharing and more.
Meets on Thursdays each month, 5 – 7 p.m.
Mercy Medical Center, 250 Mercy Drive, Dubuque
Contact: 563-589-9660
- *SHARE Support Group*
Support for loss due to miscarriage, stillbirth, or infant death.
Meets the second Wednesday of each month.
Mercy Medical Center, 250 Mercy Drive, Dubuque
Contact: 563-589-9599

Volunteer Opportunities:

- *Hospice of Dubuque*
Offers assistance to those nearing death.
1670 JFK Road, Dubuque, IA 52002 • _563-582-1220

Prayer for the Dead:

- God our Father, Your power brings us to birth, Your providence guides our lives, and by Your command we return to dust. Lord, those who die still live in Your presence, their lives change but do not end. I pray in hope for my family, relatives and friends, and for all the dead known to You alone. In company with Christ, Who died and now lives, may they rejoice in Your kingdom, where all our tears are wiped away. Unite us together again in one family, to sing Your praise forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer on the Anniversary of a Death:

- Lord, the God of mercies, grant unto the souls of Thy servants the anniversary day of whose burial we are keeping, a place of solace, of peaceful rest, of glorious light. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

If you or a loved one is facing death and would like to be anointed, please contact Sr. Sharon Rezmer (563-583-9749), one of the priests, or the parish office.

More information about the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy:

- Year of Mercy Message from Archbishop Jackels:
<https://www.dbqarch.org/yearofmercy/message-fromarchbishop-jackels/>
- Archdiocesan Works of Mercy Projects, Activities, Media, Prayers, Music Resources and More: <https://www.dbqarch.org/yearofmercy/>
- Cathedral and St. Patrick's website:
www.cathedralstpats.org/yearofmercy