

## **St. John Vianney Parish**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_

### **Christian Charity**

Prayer, study and the practice of Christian Charity are important ways in which we open ourselves to receive the Holy Spirit in Confirmation. Christian Charity means doing good things for other people out of love for Jesus and our neighbors. It can mean simple things like caring for younger brothers and sisters or more challenging things like serving the poor at a soup kitchen. As long as you accept no pay for what you do, and you do it in a spirit of Christ-like love, what you do will count as an act of Christian Charity.

Works of charity done out of compassion and concern for others allow us to extend God's compassion and mercy to those in need. They are good for the body and soul of both the performer and the recipient.

Since performing acts of charity helps us grow as Christians and opens our hearts more fully to receive God's grace, students preparing for Confirmation are required to perform acts of charity while preparing for Confirmation. Although our Pastor is not too concerned with exact hours, he asks that you strive to perform about 10 hours of Christian Charity as you prepare for Confirmation. We recommend that you perform several different types of Christian Charity, with a few hours for each. See Mt. 25:35-36. See also the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy and some suggested works of charity on the back.

Use this form to record your acts of charity. The Signature should be the signature of an adult who supervised or witnessed your act of charity. For students preparing to receive Confirmation in spring 2023 This form must be returned to your teacher no later than March 6, 2023.

Type of Charity	Hours	Date	Signature

## **Corporal Works of Mercy**

- Feed the hungry
- Give drink to the thirsty
- Clothe the naked
- Shelter the homeless
- Visit the sick
- Visit the imprisoned
- Bury the dead

## **Spiritual Works of Mercy**

- Admonish the sinner
- Instruct the ignorant
- Counsel the doubtful
- Comfort the sorrowful
- Bear wrongs patiently
- Forgive all injuries
- Pray for the living and the dead

The corporal works of mercy look to the body and the spiritual works of mercy look to the soul.

### **Some practical suggestions for living the Works of Mercy include:**

- Volunteer at a soup kitchen or food pantry
- Collect food for the hungry to donate to a food pantry
- Collect clothing to donate to the St Vincent de Paul Society in our parish
- Participate in a walk to raise money for the hungry
- Visit a sick relative whether in a hospital or home
- Attend the wake and funeral Mass for a relative
- Volunteer to assist with religious education classes
- Spend time specifically praying for the living, perhaps a relative who is sick or having some difficulty.
- Spend time specifically praying for the dead, perhaps a relative or neighbor has recently died.

### **Other suggestions for works of charity**

- Volunteer as an Altar Server
- Sing in the children's choir
- Change the missals in Church (November)
- Babysit for younger brothers and sisters
- Rake leaves or shovel snow for an elderly neighbor or relative
- Colonia Clean-up at Shaughnessy Park (clean-up is done in the fall and spring)
- St. Isadore's Garden (planting, watering, weeding, harvesting)
- Filling easter eggs for the Egg Hunt