

HOLY YEAR OF MERCY

Pope Francis has announced an official proclamation of the 2015-16 extraordinary jubilee or [Holy Year of Mercy](#) which will begin December 8. He asks that this be a time for Catholics to contemplate just how merciful God has been to them and to understand better how they are called to be merciful to others in turn. Mercy, the pope wrote, is “the beating heart of the Gospel.”

“How much I desire that the year to come will be steeped in mercy, so that we can go out to every man and woman, bringing the goodness and tenderness of God,” he wrote. “May the balm of mercy reach everyone, both believers and those far away, as a sign that the kingdom of God is already present in our midst.” Nothing in the church’s preaching or witness, he said, can be lacking in mercy.

He urged all Catholics to spend more time practicing what traditionally have been called the corporal and spiritual works of mercy. The Corporal works are: Feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick, visiting the imprisoned, giving drink to the thirsty and burying the dead. The spiritual works are: Converting sinners, instructing the ignorant, advising the doubtful, comforting the sorrowful, bearing wrongs patiently, forgiving injuries and praying for the living and the dead.

Some of the events planned for Father Lopez are listed here. Look for information on each event in upcoming newsletters.

DECEMBER

Feeding the Hungry

Canned Food Drive

Gleaning with the Senior Class

Spiritual Works:

Reconciliation Service

JANUARY

Shelter the Homeless:

Annual Homeless Lock Out

Clothing the Naked:

Annual Homeless Lock Out

Clothing Collection for Dominican Republic

FEBRUARY

Visiting the Sick:

Dance Marathon for Shands & Arnold Palmer

Clothing the Naked:

Clothing Collection for Dominican Republic

Shelter the Homeless:

Making Plarn (*Yarn from recycled plastic bags*)

MARCH

Feeding the Hungry:

Feeding Children Everywhere Meal Packing

Spiritual Works:

Mission Trip to the Dominican Republic

Reconciliation Service

Faculty/Staff Retreat Day

APRIL

Feeding the Hungry

Peanut Butter drive for the Dominican Republic