

The Apostolate Of The Gift

The Christian life is not only about **finding** yourself - who you truly are in GOD - but in the end it is about **giving** yourself... wholly and unconditionally, pouring yourself out in love. For the greatest gift you can ever give is to give yourself.

Not in great works or distant lands - but here and now, in this place, in this moment. To love the one you're with. The person or creature who is before you, HERE and NOW. Then, doing what you can with what you have, Jesus will use the little loaves and fishes of your love offering (Matthew 14:15-21) to satisfy the great demands of love.

And your reward is knowing that... "GOD is love, and whoever remains in love remains in GOD and GOD in him." I John 4:16

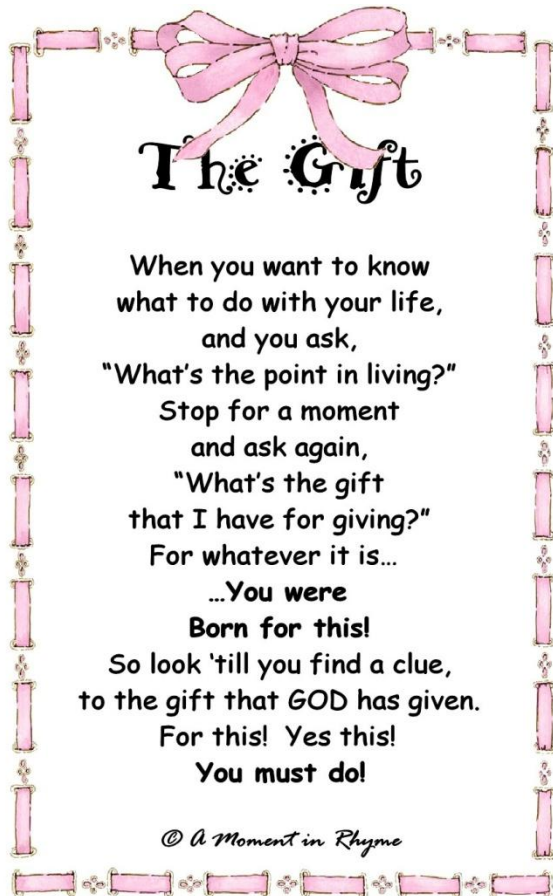
The Apostolate of the **School of Prayer of the Holy Childhood of the Blessed Virgin Mary** is the **APOSTOLATE OF THE GIFT...**

...loving others by giving the great gift of our own self in unconditional self-giving **AND** by using the gifts that GOD has given us, in the service of others and for His glory.

"Everyone who breathes, high and low,
educated and ignorant, young and old,
man and woman, has a mission, has a work."

Saint John Neuman

We encourage **all** souls to seek, discover and use the talents and gifts GOD has given them, and to use them joyfully **in the love and service of others**, so that we and all men may live for the praise of GOD's glory, for..." **The glory of GOD is man fully alive!** Saint Irenaeus



We advocate for fullness of life
for ourselves and for all souls -
through the discovery and free
use of our GOD-given talents in
the service of others, for...

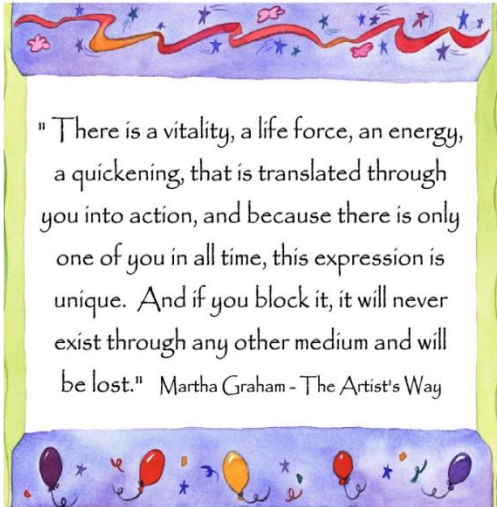
" It is the creative potential
itself in human beings that is the
image of GOD."

Mary Daly - The Artist's Way

At the **School of Prayer of
the Holy Childhood of the
Blessed Virgin Mary** you are
invited to look at the following
Corporal and Spiritual Works
of Mercy, and to ask yourself...

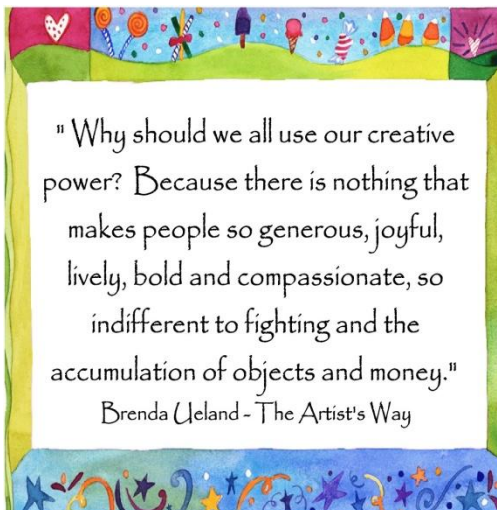
" What gift do I have from GOD that I can give to others, and that will
accomplish these works? "

The Corporal & Spiritual Works Of Mercy



The Corporal Works of Mercy

Feed the hungry
Give drink to the thirsty
Clothe the naked
Shelter the homeless
Care for the sick
Visit those in prison
Bury the dead



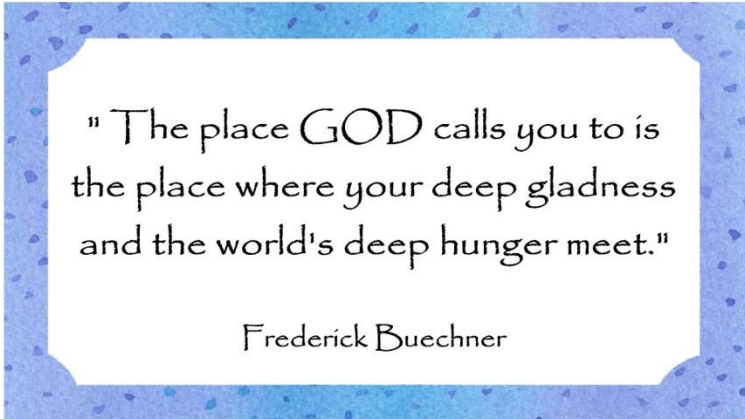
The Spiritual Works of Mercy

Instruct the ignorant
Counsel the doubtful
Admonish sinners
Bear wrongs patiently
Forgive offences willingly
Comfort the sorrowful
Pray for the living and the dead

The **Corporal Works of Mercy** are directed toward the care of the body. The **Spiritual Works of Mercy** are directed toward the care of the soul.

Both the Corporal and the Spiritual Works of Mercy are based upon the teachings of JESUS and the tradition and practice of the Catholic Church for 2000 years.

To love our neighbor as ourselves is not optional - it is the perfection of the First Commandment of GOD. (Matthew 22:37-40) It is a Divine Precept, and, as JESUS sternly admonishes us in His prophecy of the Final Judgment (Matthew 25:31-46), our eternal destiny depends upon our fulfilling His Law of Love. But take heart, for...



" The place GOD calls you to is
the place where your deep gladness
and the world's deep hunger meet."

Frederick Buechner