



Works of Mercy Tree

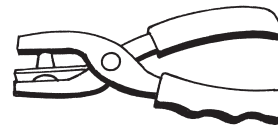
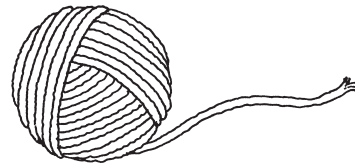
Materials:

Coffee can	Leafless tree branch
Gift wrapping paper	Yarn
Glue	Paper punch
Plaster of paris	

FAITH CONNECTION

Explain that the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy are concrete ways of showing our love of neighbors.

You may need one or two aides for this project.



Directions:

1. Cover a coffee can with gift wrapping paper.
2. Fill the coffee can with plaster of paris. Set the branch down into the plaster of paris and hold the branch upright.
3. Have the students make little booklets from gift wrapping paper and write a promise to perform a work of mercy inside each booklet. (One or two aides will be needed to help the younger students write their works.)
4. Write the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy on the board.

Corporal Works of Mercy

- Feeding the hungry
- Sheltering the homeless
- Clothing the naked
- Visiting the sick and those in prison
- Giving alms to the poor
- Burying the dead

Spiritual Works of Mercy

- Instructing
- Advising
- Consoling
- Comforting
- Forgiving
- Bearing wrongs with patience

5. Punch a hole in each booklet. Using yarn, tie each booklet to the tree.
6. Help the students remember to do their works of mercy by suggesting they make a “promise” tree at home.
7. This project can be brought to the liturgy and presented as the students’ gift.

