

# AUGUST PARISH MAILING

## Poverty



Pope Francis Center  
for Justice and Charity

### Homily Hints

“Among our tasks as witnesses to the love of Christ is that of giving a voice to the cry of the poor, so that they are not abandoned to the laws of an economy that seems at times to treat people as mere consumers.” Pope Francis

“...the universal destination of goods requires that the poor, the marginalized and in all cases those whose living conditions interfere with their proper

growth should be the focus of particular concern. To this end, the preferential option for the poor should be reaffirmed in all its force... It affects the life of each Christian

inasmuch as he or she seeks to imitate the life of Christ, but it applies equally to our social responsibilities and hence to our manner of living...” (The Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, 2005, no. 182).

“A fundamental moral measure of any economy is how the poor and vulnerable are faring” (A Catholic Framework for Economic Life U.S. Catholic Bishops, 1996, no. 3).

“... love for widows and orphans, prisoners, and the sick and needy of every kind, is as essential to [the Church] as the ministry of the sacraments and preaching of the Gospel. The Church cannot neglect the service of charity any more than she can neglect the Sacraments and the Word” (God is Love (Deus Caritas Est) Pope Benedict XVI, 2005, no. 22).

“... within the community of believers there can never be room for a poverty that denies anyone what is needed for a dignified life.” Pope Benedict XVI

“The Eucharist and the poor we must never separate. The poor and the Eucharist are one. There is not one without the other. If we really believe that he, Jesus, is in the appearance of bread and he, Jesus, is in the hungry, the naked, the sick the lonely, unloved, the homeless, the helpless, the hopeless, then our lives will be more and more woven with this deep faith in Jesus, the Bread of Life to be eaten with and for the poor.” Saint Teresa of Calcutta

“We may think of the poor simply as the beneficiaries of our occasional volunteer work, or of impromptu acts of generosity that appease our conscience. However good and useful such acts may be for making us sensitive to people’s needs and the injustices that are often their cause, they ought to lead to a true encounter with the poor and a sharing that becomes a way of life.” (Pope Francis, 1st World Day of the Poor, 2017, no. 3)

### Catholic social teaching

*A basic moral test for our society is how we treat the most vulnerable in our midst.*

*In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.*

*(Seven Themes of Catholic Social Teaching, U.S. Catholic Bishops, 2005)*



Prævidetur Hæc Creatura Homo



### Prayer Intentions:

For those deprived of their human needs, and their human rights: that they may be given the dignity which God confers on all his people—

*we pray to the Lord.*

For all who are forgotten or thrown away, and especially for the poor, the sick and the aged: that God might change our hearts and move us to love them as the image of Christ—

*we pray to the Lord.*

For the nations of the world: that every law and structure of society may be founded on mercy and unselfish concern for the betterment of others—

*we pray to the Lord.*

### Prayer for Those in Poverty

God of Justice, open our eyes to see you in the face of those in poverty. Open our ears to hear you in the cries of those exploited. Open our mouths to defend you in the public squares as well as in private deeds. Remind us that what we do to the least ones, we do to you. Amen

### Work of Mercy

#### [Clothe the Naked »](#)

**I was a stranger and you welcomed me**  
(Matthew 25:35)

- [Donate »](#)

*Catholic Charities of Oregon achieves lasting solutions to poverty and injustice by partnering with clients to meet their economic and educational goals and to support their physical and social well-being.*

- [Volunteer »](#)

*at Catholic Charities*

- [Advocate »](#)

- [Accompany »](#)

*The crowds asked John the Baptist,  
'What should we do?'  
He said to them in reply,*

*'Whoever has two cloaks should share  
with the person who has none.*

*(Luke 3: 10-11).*



**August 10 is the Feast Day of  
St. Lawrence, Patron Saint of the Poor**

