

## Parish Social Ministry Highlight: February 2016

### I Desire Mercy, and Not Sacrifice: The Works of Mercy on The Road Of The Jubilee

The season of Lent in this Jubilee Year is a favorable time to overcome our existential alienation by listening to God's word and by practicing the works of mercy. In the corporal works of mercy we touch the flesh of Christ in our brothers and sisters who need to be fed, clothed, sheltered, visited; in the spiritual works of mercy – counsel, instruction, forgiveness, admonishment and prayer – we touch more directly our own sinfulness. The corporal and spiritual works of mercy must never be separated.

- Message by Pope Francis for Lent 2016

- **Why do we meet?**

- So we are not alone
- To learn, to share our joys and pains
- To rejuvenate
- For inspiration and ideas, support and encouragement
- For pizza
- Because the Archdiocese hosts

- **Tools for Your Ministry**

**Suggestions for Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy**  
<http://pdxlifejusticepeace.org/works-of-mercy>

**Parish Social Ministry Page**  
<http://pdxlifejusticepeace.org/parish-social-ministry>

### Parish Social Ministry



**Resources: Books, DVDs, Pamphlets, Bulletin Material**  
<http://pdxlifejusticepeace.org/resources-2>



### RESOURCES



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### Ministry Spotlight: A Parish Committee That Created an Opportunity to Involve the Parish, Thus Creating a Ministry.

#### St. Juan Diego (Portland): Alicia Schubert

The SJD Social Justice Ministry used the release of Laudato Si' to educate and involve the parish a part of Catholic social teaching. **There are 14 elements that make up this effort!**

1. **Low-hanging fruit:** the release of the much-talked about encyclical from Pope Francis
2. **Tangibles:** offered a copy of the encyclical to everyone who signed up for one. (The ministry paid for these, 120 books.)
3. **Kick-off:** Handed out the books on one weekend; made an announcement from the pulpit.
4. **Tied into an event:** The kick-off was on Sunday, October 4, the Feast Day of St. Francis
5. **Engaged Parishioners:** During coffee and doughnuts, ran a video of Fr. James Martin explaining the "10 Things You Need to Know about Laudato Si'"
6. **Faith-Formation:** The parish DRE had a table on Laudato Si' next to the Social Justice's table (where they were handing out books)
7. **Youth:** The DRE was offering ways for youth to be involved in caring for creation
8. **Small Faith-Sharing Groups:** organized six study groups to use Laudato Si' to explore and share their faith
9. **Flexible approach:** offered a selection of study guides on the Social Justice Ministry page of the parish website for folks who wanted to explore their faith alone or in their family
10. **Deeper Dive:** included links to further exploration of Laudato Si' and Care for Creation
11. **Weekly Bulletins:** contain a short reflection from Laudato Si'. One a month, there is a full-page insert on Laudato Si'
12. **Facebook:** using Facebook as another means of evangelizing Laudato Si'
13. **Opportunity:** bought a table at the Earth Care Summit and extended an invitation to parishioners
14. **Jubilee Year of Mercy/Works of Mercy:** Involving the parish in monthly works of mercy that tie into Laudato Si'.