## **Dear Catechetical Colleagues,**

Ash Wednesday is February 10th. As we enter this time of Lent, we would like to focus this week's newsletter on the rich variety of events and resources the Archdiocese is supporting for the Year of Mercy.

Did you know that...

- The <u>Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy</u> will be visiting seven parishes across our Archdiocese from February 13th-20th? The will be coming with first-class relics of St. Faustina and St. John Paul II for veneration, talks on mercy, and time for prayer.
- St. James Cathedral is hosting a series of Year of Mercy Jubilee events? Participate
  in the <u>Day of Mercy</u>. There will be four priests offering the sacrament of
  Reconciliation on Saturday, March 5th from 9 am to 5 pm.
- People throughout Western Washington are invited to participate in pilgrimages at St. James Cathedral, the Proto-Cathedral of St. James the Greater in Vancouver, St. Joseph in Chehalis, Immaculate Conception in Mount Vernon, and Holy Rosary in Tacoma?
- The Archdiocesan website <a href="http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/Mercy">http://www.seattlearchdiocese.org/Mercy</a> has a link specifically devoted to information and resources on the Year of Mercy?
- The Library Media Center has collected a wide variety of materials to assist your parish in offering programs on the Year of Mercy?
- There are <u>resources</u> to help you incorporate the Year of Mercy in the **classroom**?
- There is a list of movie clips you can access for teaching others about mercy? (see page 19 of this attached file) <u>stfrancisdesales.org/YearofMercy.pdf</u> Also, Sr. Rose Pacatte offers up some great movie suggestions where the topic of mercy is highlighted in her blog found on <u>Patheos.com</u>
- Participating in the Corporal Works of Mercy can be as simple as:

Providing a meal for a family who is ill or grieving?

Donating baby formula to Prepares ministry?

Cleaning your closet and taking gently used clothing to St Vincent de Paul?

Sending Bibles or other spiritual reading material to a local jail or prison?

Offering manual labor or providing resources to a local homeless shelter?

Visiting a sick or homebound member of your parish?

Supplying a dish for a funeral luncheon?

The Jubilee Year of Mercy offers an awesome evangelization opportunity?

People everywhere, whether or not they are Catholic, are enthusiastic about Pope Francis and his message of "...the love of God, who consoles, pardons, and instills hope."

In Christ,
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