

## THE BEATITUDES: PART III

Reflection by Steve Petty

As we continue to walk with Jesus towards the holy life, the Lord has much to teach us. In last month's edition of the Catholic Corner, we learned about the importance of having a poor spirit. In this edition we break open the second Beatitude:

**"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted."**

Matthew 5:4

In the second Beatitude, Jesus teaches us that if we rely on him in dark times, we will find the light of consolation. These disciples have a special connection to the Lord, because like Jesus, they've been touched by the cross, and like Jesus, they participate in the suffering of others. By participating in the sufferings of others, they draw close to the Lord. By drawing close to Jesus, we are able to feel his presence, which manifests itself as joy in the heart. Pope Francis puts it this way:

*"A person who sees things as they truly are and sympathizes with pain and sorrow is capable of touching life's depths and finding authentic happiness. He or she is consoled, not by the world, but by Jesus. Such persons are unafraid to share in the suffering of others; they do not flee from painful situations. They discover the meaning of life by coming to the aid of those who suffer, understanding their anguish and bringing relief. They sense that the other is flesh of our flesh, and are not afraid to draw near, even to touch their wounds."*

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states: "The Beatitudes depict the countenance of Jesus Christ and portray his charity." (CCC 1717). The Christian who truly lives the Beatitudes mirrors Christ's charity to others, giving the other a taste of Christ's presence. This is especially true when we mourn with others and enter into their suffering.

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY

by Ken Pullis

November is a month marked by celebration and prayer in the Catholic calendar. We begin the month with the celebration of the feast of All Saints Day. We are reminded of the universal call to holiness that we receive in Baptism. **We celebrate the memory of the holy men and women who "have fought the good fight and finished the race" to win the prize that never fades: eternal happiness with God in Heaven.** During our lives here on Earth, we strive to live according to the Gospel values of charity, humility, service to others, faith, and compassion for those who suffer. Pain, suffering, temptation, and sin slow us down in our pursuit of Heaven, and they are constant reminders of our need for God and His mercy. And so, we also pray for our deceased brothers and sisters that they may soon join the saints and angels in Heaven with Christ.

THE WORKS OF MERCY	
 <b>CORPORAL MERCY</b>	 <b>SPIRITUAL MERCY</b>
 <b>FEED THE HUNGRY</b>	 <b>ADMONISH THE SINNER.</b>
 <b>GIVE DRINK TO THE THIRSTY</b>	 <b>INSTRUCT THE IGNORANT</b>
 <b>SHELTER THE HOMELESS</b>	 <b>COUNSEL THE DOUBTFUL</b>
 <b>CLOTHE THE NAKED</b>	 <b>COMFORT THE SORROWFUL</b>
 <b>VISIT THE IMPRISONED</b>	 <b>BEAR WRONGS PATIENTLY</b>
 <b>VISIT THE SICK</b>	 <b>FORGIVE ALL INJURIES</b>
 <b>BURY THE DEAD</b>	 <b>PRAY FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD</b>

Then we turn our attention to praying for the poor souls in Purgatory on All Souls Day and throughout the rest of the month. The Church encourages us to show mercy for the living and the dead in imitation of Jesus Christ. We have the Corporal Works of Mercy that address the physical and material needs of men and women. These are the ones that we are most familiar with because we are often invited to donate food and clothing for those in need. This is especially true during the cold Winter months, as many find themselves going without the basic necessities of food, clothing, shelter, and often fall prey to sickness because they lack what is needed to stay healthy. However, there are also the Spiritual Works of Mercy that attend to needs that we have in our spirit and soul. **St. Teresa of Calcutta would say that the greatest poverty is experienced by those who are not loved, those who are not wanted, those who are forgotten, those who live on the margins of society.** Pope Leo XIV speaks of our call to serve the poor with love and to recognize their dignity in his recent Apostolic Exhortation *Dilexi Te* ("I Have Love You"). Let us accept the invitation and challenge to love the most vulnerable by practicing the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy.

## WORKS OF MERCY

CORPORAL	SPIRITUAL
 Feed the hungry.	 Teach the ignorant.
 Give drink to the thirsty.	 Counsel the doubtful.
 Shelter the homeless.	 Admonish sinners.
 Clothe the naked.	 Forgive offenses.
 Visit the sick.	 Comfort the afflicted.
 Visit those in prison.	 Bear wrongs patiently.
 Bury the dead.	 Pray for the living and the dead.

## LEARN MORE >>

### 89 Recommendations for the Spiritual Works of Mercy

<https://www.ncregister.com/blog/89-practical-recommendations-for-the-spiritual-works-of-mercy>



## GODZILLA DAY AND THE CONNECTION TO CATHOLICISM

by Tim McCormick

Mr. Pullis notes in his contribution for this month that November is marked by a number of important feast days and celebrations. In my house, along with the various Catholic celebrations found in November, we also celebrate Godzilla Day, which takes place each year on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. It was back on November 3<sup>rd</sup> in 1954 that the original Japanese movie *Gojira* premiered in Japan. (The Americanized version known as *Godzilla: The King of the Monsters*, with Raymond Burr, wasn't released until two years later.) While those original fifteen *Godzilla* films, spanning from the 50's-70's, were produced through the creativity of a number of people, one person was responsible for the look of *Godzilla* that the world has come to know and love today. **That man was Eiji Tsuburaya, who was also a convert to the Catholic Church.**

I had the privilege of recently writing a short article on Eiji Tsuburaya and his conversion to Catholicism in the November issue of the Coming Home Network's monthly newsletter. The Coming Home Network was established to help non-Catholic Christians, clergy and laity, discover the truth and beauty of Catholicism. Perhaps you have seen their weekly TV program "The Journey Home," which airs on EWTN on Monday nights. If you are at all like me and my youngest son, who in celebration of Godzilla Day this November 3<sup>rd</sup> watched *Godzilla vs. Mothra and Ghidorah, the Three-Headed Monster*, it's pretty cool knowing that "the man behind the monster" or perhaps "the Catholic behind the Kaiju" was a fellow Catholic. I explore that in this short article linked below. Enjoy!



## LEARN MORE >>

### The Catholic Convert Behind Godzilla

<https://chnetwork.org/2025/11/04/eiji-tsuburaya-the-catholic-convert-behind-godzilla/>

