

Saint Joseph and Saint Michael & All Angels ADVENT 2017



Week 1

Our focus this week is

Homelessness

[Matthew 25 :35](#)

Words of Pope Francis

How can it be that it is not a news item when an elderly homeless person dies of exposure, but it is news when the stock market loses two points? This is a case of exclusion.

[1 John 3:16-18](#)

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in action.

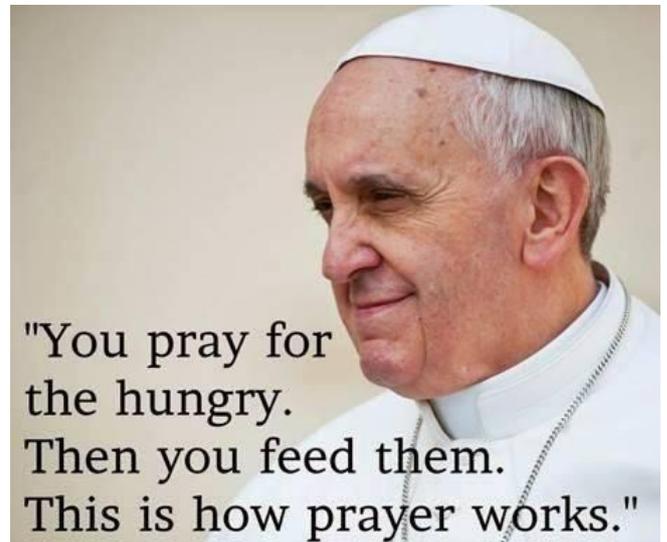
For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was homeless and you took me in.

How many homeless people have you seen/passed by this last week?



Pope Francis has opened a laundry in Rome for the homeless-----

A free service offered to the poorest people, particularly the homeless, who will be able to wash, dry and iron their clothes and blankets.



Let us pray and also act—

We pray for those of us with warm houses and comfortable beds that we not be lulled into complacency and forgetfulness. Jesus, help us to see your face in the eyes of every homeless person we meet so that we may be empowered through word and deed, and through the political means we have, to bring justice and peace to those who are homeless. Amen.

Lord God,

You came to give honour to the least
those forgotten, overlooked and misjudged.

You came to give first place to the last,
those left behind, misunderstood and undervalued.

You came to give a warm welcome to the lost
those who are orphaned, abandoned and destitute.

Help us to be your ears to listen to their cries.
Help us to be your voice speaking out love and acceptance.
Help us to be your feet walking beside those in need.

Help us to be your hands to clothe,
feed and shelter them.

You came for the least, the lost and last of this world.
Lord, hear our prayer.

DON'T LET US JUST PASS BY THIS WEEK.