



January Work of Mercy: Shelter the Homeless

According to the OC Community Services Department, there are currently 4,452 Orange County residents experiencing homelessness, including 447 veterans.

At the end of life we will not be judged by how many diplomas we have received, how much money we have made, how many great things we have done. We will be judged by "I was hungry, and you gave me something to eat,

I was naked and you clothed me. I was homeless, and you took me in."

~Mother Teresa

How can you Shelter the Homeless this month?

- ✦ Volunteer to serve at a cold-weather shelter operated by Mercy House, www.mercyhouse.net, (714) 836-7188
- ✦ Donate blankets or hygiene items to Catholic Worker Isaiah House, www.occatholicworker.org, (714) 835-6304
- ✦ Support homeless, pregnant women staying at Casa Teresa, www.casateresa.com, (714) 538-4860
- ✦ Volunteer to build, paint, or landscape new homes or repair veterans' homes with Habitat for Humanity, www.habitatoc.org, (714) 434-6200
- ✦ Donate to Thomas House Family Shelter, thomashouseshelter.org, (714) 554-0357

Prayer for Those Experiencing Homelessness

Hear our prayer for all women and men, boys and girls who are homeless this day.

For those sleeping under bridges, on park benches, in doorways or bus stations.

For those who can only find shelter for the night but must wander in the daytime.

For families broken because they could not afford to pay the rent.

For those who have no relatives or friends who can take them in.

For those who have no place to keep possessions that remind them who they are.

For those who are afraid and hopeless.

For all these people, we pray for shelter, security and hope.

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

to show mercy to those who are homeless. Amen.