



ST. THOMAS OF VILLANOVA
Religious Education Community

Work Crew (W.U.R.K C.R.W)

<u>Spiritual Works</u>
Counsel the Doubtful
Instruct the Ignorant
Admonish the Sinner
Comfort the Sorrowful
Forgive all Injuries
Bear Wrongs Patiently
Pray for the Living & the Dead

<u>W</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>W</u>
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<u>Corporal Works</u>
Feed the Hungry
Give Drink to the Thirsty
Shelter the Homeless
Clothe the Naked
Visit the Sick & Imprisoned
Bury the Dead
Give Alms to the Poor

As Catholics we are all called to be a part of God’s WURK CRW (pronounced Work Crew).

WURK CRW is a great way to remember the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are the qualities of Jesus that take root in us and become our qualities. We are sealed with these gifts at our Confirmation. The work we do and the gifts we receive go hand in hand.

Throughout the Gospel, Jesus teaches that we need to work on things to build the Kingdom of God. We need to work on becoming better versions of ourselves. We need to work on our relationship with God, and work on our relationship with others. Luckily for us, the Gospel is our road map.

It is the hope of St. Thomas of Villanova that you will grow to see all the gifts in your life as gifts from God. It takes practice and an open heart to see God in all that we do. As you prepare for Confirmation, we ask that you take time to reflect on the work you do and on the work you have done. Did you see God in the service hours you did for your sports team? Do you see God in the relationship you have with your grandparents? Is God with you when you do your chores? These are just a few examples of the reflective questions you can ask yourself. The Holy Spirit is with us always and in all that we do.



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The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

W.U.R.K. C.R.W

- **Wisdom** is the gift of knowing the right choices to make to live a holy life. Wisdom helps us avoid the things that lead us away from God.
- **Understanding** is the gift of comprehension. It helps us to be tolerant and sympathetic to other and to have the ability to grasp the teaching of the church. It helps us sense when someone is hurting or in need of compassion.
- **Right Judgment**: Enables us to discern between right and wrong. It helps us to live the life that Jesus wants us to live and keeps us from evil. Right Judgment helps us make good choices.
- **Knowledge**: allows us to see the circumstances of our lives the way God sees them and to choose the right path. Knowledge helps us to see what is important and what is not.
- **Courage**: is the gift that stands up for our faith and to overcome any obstacles. Courage helps us to do what is right.
- **Reverence**: allows us to trust God completely. Reverence helps us show our gratitude for all that God has done for us. To joyfully want to serve God and others.
- **Wonder and Awe**: is the gift of appreciation for God's creation and infinite glory. Wonder and Awe help us marvel at the power and beauty of God's creation and in each person we meet.



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Work Crew Reflection

(W.U.R.K C.R.W)

“Work” is a requirement for Confirmation Preparation. Reflecting on the work we do is one the best ways to see God in our lives. Reflecting takes practice and can take a long time to perfect.

We are asking that you participate in and reflect on at least three events. Please complete the Work Crew Reflection Form for each event you participate in. Any event that incorporates a Work of Mercy or requires a Gift of the Holy Spirit will count toward your Work Crew requirements. Get creative & look for God in all the work you do.

Name: _____

1. What work did you do? (Please explain what you did.)

2. How did others benefit from the work you did? (Who benefited and how did they benefit? The benefits can be surprising. Ex. By helping your grandparents, their friends may have also benefited.)

3. How did you benefit from the work you did? (How did you feel after doing the work? Did someone thank you in a special way?)

4. What Gifts of the Holy Spirit were used or strengthened in you? (Refer to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit page for help.)



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The Spiritual Works of Mercy

The Spiritual Works of Mercy have long been a part of the Christian tradition, appearing in the works of theologians and spiritual writers throughout history. Just as Jesus attended to the spiritual well-being of those he ministered to, these Spiritual Works of Mercy guide us to "help our neighbor in their spiritual needs" (USCCA).

COUNSELING THE DOUBTFUL

Everyone has moments of doubt in their faith journey. Nevertheless, we should always remember that Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Life and turn to him along our way. You can help a friend who is struggling by helping them see that God is at work in all things.

INSTRUCTING THE IGNORANT

Learn about our faith and be open with it to others. Remember that there is always something more to discover about our faith. Go on a service trip or mission trip. Donate to or support someone on their service trip.

ADMONISHING THE SINNER

Do not judge but be supportive in helping others who need help finding their way. When you correct someone, don't be arrogant. We are all in need of God's loving correction.

COMFORTING THE SORROWFUL

Comfort those who are dealing with grief. Even if we aren't sure of the right words to say, our presence can make a big difference. Make a home-cooked meal for a friend who is facing a difficult time or send them a card.

FORGIVING INJURIES

Forgiving others is difficult at times, but Jesus teaches us that we should forgive as God forgives. Saying sorry is something we learn as kids, but how often do we really mean it? Forgiving means reconciling with someone and this is often more difficult than just accepting someone's apology.

BEARING WRONGS PATIENTLY

Do not be bitter about wrongs done against you. Frustrated with someone? Step away from the situation, take a few deep breaths, pray the Our Father, asking God for patience. Refrain from posting negative thoughts against someone who has wronged you on social media. Take time away from outlets that encourage gossip.

PRAYING FOR THE LIVING AND THE DEAD

Prayer is one of the most powerful ways we can support others. Challenge yourself to pray every day.