

What We Do

The St. Benedict Catholic Worker is involved in a variety of ministries that arise out of our presence at Fresno County Jail. Since 1997, we have been serving those in need in front of the jail. With the help of our donors and supporters like you, the S.B.C.W. has been able to:

- ◆ Prepare and serve over 16,000 meals in front of Fresno County Jail each year.
- ◆ Provide transportation to released inmates from Fresno County Jail.
- ◆ Provide emergency food for individuals and families in need.
- ◆ Provide a home for single women.
- ◆ Distribute blankets, clothing and hundreds of hygiene items to those we serve.
- ◆ Provide pastoral counseling and 12-step support groups for those we serve.



Living the Works of Mercy

Feed the Hungry

One Tuesday evening, a young mother with two toddlers came to our serving table in front of Fresno County Jail. Juana had been waiting since early morning for her husband to be released from the jail. She told us that she and her daughters had not eaten all day. She asked how much we were charging for our meal and, when we told her it was free, her eyes filled with tears of relief. She thanked us and joined the Catholic Worker for dinner that night.

Offer Hospitality to the Homeless

A young woman named Dee came to live with us. She had been living on the streets and was receiving disability assistance. She needed a place to stay so that she could save money to regain her independence. Today Dee lives in her own home, has a job and is active in her local parish.

Care for the Sick

Elizabeth, a homeless woman addicted to alcohol, wanted to change her life. She came to live with us, was able to achieve sobriety and became a member of our community. Later diagnosed with lung cancer, Elizabeth made the journey home to God, cared for and comforted by her beloved community, the St. Benedict Catholic Worker.

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 Designed by La Gringa Loca

**St. Benedict
Catholic Worker**

The only solution is Love.

Dorothy Day





The Catholic Worker

St. Benedict Catholic Worker in Fresno, California was founded in July 1997 in response to the Gospel call to follow Christ by doing the Works of Mercy outlined in Matthew 25 of Sacred Scripture. We are committed to a simple non-violent lifestyle as we live and work among our brothers and sisters from all walks of life who, like us, are at times broken and in need of the healing love of Christ.

The Catholic Worker movement was founded in 1933 by Peter Maurin and Dorothy Day in New York City to implement the teachings of the Gospels and to promote the biblical promise of mercy, compassion, justice and love. Grounded in the firm belief in the God-given dignity of every person, the movement has spread far and wide; over 150 Catholic Worker communities worldwide serve those in need in their neighborhoods.

Much of our ministry begins in front of Fresno County Jail. Twice a week, the Catholic Worker serves an evening meal...to released inmates, the poor living in the downtown Fresno area and the homeless...even to an occasional lawyer, bail bondsman or Fresno County deputy sheriff.

The St. Benedict Catholic Worker is committed to "serving all in front of Fresno County Jail."

The Works of Mercy

The Works of Mercy are an abiding norm for the Catholic Worker Movement. Dorothy Day and Peter Maurin lived lives of "active love" built on these precepts.

In Christian tradition they are. . .

The corporal works of mercy:

- feeding the hungry*
- giving drink to the thirsty*
- clothing the naked*
- offering hospitality to the homeless*
- caring for the sick*
- visiting the imprisoned*
- burying the dead*



The spiritual works of mercy:

- admonishing the sinner*
- instructing the ignorant*
- counseling the doubtful*
- comforting the sorrowful*
- bearing wrongs patiently*
- forgiving all injuries*
- praying for the living and the dead*

Pledge of Support

YES! I / we want to help the Catholic Worker reach out to those in need and pledge support in the following ways:

Donate NOW to help the St. Benedict C.W.

\$100 \$50 \$25 \$ _____

Script (Smart & Final, Food Maxx, Savemart)

Pledge to send monthly support in the amount of: \$ _____

Volunteer

Please add me / us to your mailing list.

Name

Address

Phone

Method of Payment

Check—*please make checks payable to:
St. Benedict Catholic Worker*

Cash

All donations are tax deductible.

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