

## BUILD ON ROCK!

**"Every one who comes to me and hears my words and does them... is like a man building a house, who dug deep, and laid the foundation upon rock... But he who hears and does not do them is like a man who built a house on the sand without a foundation... and the ruin of that house was great."** Luke 6: 47-49



On Pages 3 and 4, you'll find a variety of easy ways for you to take the action Jesus is requiring of us. In the Bible excerpts below, we hear God's repeated command to take action or give alms - out of love for God and neighbor:

### Traveling back in time from New Testament times to the time of Moses:

35 A.D. to 65 A.D.:	Be doers of the Word and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.... Faith apart from works is dead. - Letter of Saint James: 1:22 & 2:26
James, Paul & Peter	Lead a life worthy to the Lord... <b>bearing fruit in every good work</b> and increasing in knowledge of God. - Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians: 1:10
	As each has received a gift, <b>employ it for one another</b> , as good stewards of God's varied grace . - 1st Letter of Saint Peter: 4:10
30 A.D. to 33 A.D.:	<b>Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy."</b> - Matthew 5:7 (Jesus's Sermon on the Mount)
The Words of the Lord	<b>Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven</b> - Matthew 5:14
	<b>As you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me. And they will go away into eternal punishment</b> - Matthew 25: 45/46
	<b>I am the vine, you are the branches ... Go and bear fruit</b> - John 15:5 & 15:16
	<b>"Which, do you think, proved neighbor to the man who fell among robbers?"</b> He said, "The one who showed mercy on him." And Jesus said to him, <b>"Go and do likewise."</b> - Luke 10:36/37 (The "Good Samaritan" parable)
	<b>Hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bring forth fruit</b> - Luke 8:11 (the parable of the sower and the seed)
	<b>"Do whatever he tells you."</b> - Mary, the Mother of Jesus (John 2:5) <b>Fill the jars with water</b> - Jesus Christ (John 2:7)
200 B.C. to 175 B.C.	<b>Water extinguishes a fire - so almsgiving atones for sin</b> - Sirach 3:30 God judges a man according to his <b>deeds</b> - Sirach 16:12 Do not be fainthearted in your prayer, nor neglect to <b>give alms</b> - Sirach 7:10 No good will come to him who persists in evil or to him who does not <b>give alms</b> - Sirach 12:3
225 B.C. - 175 B.C.	<b>Give alms from your possessions to all who live uprightly. Do not turn your face away from the poor man and God will not be turned away from you</b> - Tobit 4:7
600 B.C. - 570 B.C.	<b>Cursed is he who does the work of the Lord with slackness</b> - Jeremiah 48:10 I, the Lord, search the mind and test the heart to give every man according to his way, <b>according to the fruit of his doings</b> - Jeremiah 17:9
700 B.C.	<b>Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and will be repaid in full</b> - Proverbs 19:17
970 B.C.	Blessed is he who considers the poor! The Lord delivers him in the day of trouble - Psalm 41:1 (King David)
1400 B.C.	<b>I command you: You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and the poor</b> - Deut. 15:11



The Miracle at Cana: The finest wine was created when men acted on Jesus's word.

Last, but not least, in the 20th Century, A.D., Jesus told Saint Faustina, **"Even the strongest faith is of no avail without works.... If a soul does not exercise mercy somehow or other, it will not obtain My mercy on the day of judgment."**

**You can build on rock - by exercising mercy: Pray about the merciful missions listed on pages 3 and 4 to discern what works or almsgiving God is calling you to, then volunteer to help with your time - or with alms.**

**FIRST, PRAY! ... IN THE LORD'S PRAYER, WE ASK GOD FOR HIS DIRECTION:**

**PRAY ALOUD:**

**PAUSE AND REFLECT (SILENTLY or ALOUD):\***

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name.**

Out of Love, You created us at conception, and You love us steadfastly. We love You. ... We glorify You. ... We worship You. ... We adore You!

**Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven...**

Your will be done - in and by each of us, through our prayer-driven works, and in our nation, through Your providence, in which we trust.

**Give us this day our daily bread.**

We depend on You for everything, even our very lives. You give us all we need, as we ask in the name of Jesus. We thank You! We praise You! We trust in you.

**Forgive us our sins...**

... our personal sins, and the sins of our nation, especially the grave sin of taking the lives of unborn babies. For all these sins, we repent and make reparation. Lord, have mercy on us and our nation!

**as we forgive those who sin against us**



as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me - Jesus Christ (Matthew 25:45)

As "us" means all of us in the body of Christ, so we forgive\* those who sin against our unborn sisters and brothers, praying for the conversion of their mothers and all who fail to defend these babies.

**"Whenever you stand praying, forgive,\*\* if you have anything against any one."** - Jesus Christ, in Mark 11:25  
But, we must **"warn the righteous person not to sin "** and, **"if they do not sin, they shall surely live because they took your warning, and you will have saved your life "** - Ezekiel 3:21

**Lead us...**

**not into temptation...**



The babe leaped in her womb - Luke 1:41

Lead us, including mothers of the unborn, through inspirations given us by Jesus, the Holy Spirit, Mary, and our guardian angels, leading us to works of mercy done for people of all ages, from conception to natural death, from unborn babies and their mothers to the elderly and dying, as we work under the protection of Saint Joseph, our spiritual father and terror of demons.

**but deliver us from evil.**

Deliver us, personally, and deliver our nation, especially from the evil of taking the lives of unborn babies.

**AMEN**

\* You will soon know these reflections by heart - and can bring each one to mind in seconds.

\*\* **THE FORGIVENESS PRAYER:** "Jesus, I release (offender's name) from his debt to me and I give that debt to You. In place of this debt, I ask You to give (offender's name) a blessing, instead." As a result, God will be at work within the offender in a new way." - Father Carlos Martin, CC ... Pray thus for the conversion of abortion workers and abortion supporters.

\*\*\* After praying, "as we forgive those who sin against us", pause and be at peace, trusting in Jesus, who reassures us, **"if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will forgive you"** (Matthew 6:14)

# Missions of the Pittsburgh Culture Of Life Team (COLT\*):

God commands us to put our Faith into prayer-driven action. These missions enable you to take action through works of mercy or almsgiving on four battle fronts: To what mission is God calling you?

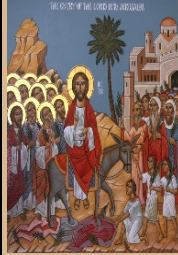
\*It was a humble little colt that Jesus "had need of" (Luke 19:31) to carry Him into Jerusalem on His way to His Passion, to save our souls. Today, He needs us to be His COLT, carrying on His work of salvation with Him.

**"(You) ought always to pray and not lose heart."**

Luke 18:1 ... "Where two or three of you are gathered in My name, there am I in the midst of them." Matthew 18: 20

1. Daily Rosary (Individually, Family, or Group)
  2. 40 Days for Life\*
  3. Praying with the sick, dying, and elderly
  4. The Magee Project\*
  5. March For Life - National and PA\*
  6. Flame of Love Cenacles: [www.flameoflove.us](http://www.flameoflove.us)
- \*See page 4 for contacts.

## PRAYER MISSIONS



**"As you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to Me."** Matthew 25:40

1. Help women considering abortion.
2. Help women who choose life.
3. Mentor fathers of unborn-at-risk.
4. Help the elderly and dying.
5. Almsgiving to support all of the above.

See page 4 to contact local groups doing these good works.

## MERCIFUL HELP MISSIONS

The underlying essential goal of each of these missions is to help Jesus Christ in His work of saving souls.

## ADULT FAITH TEACHING MISSIONS

"Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom." Colossians 3:16

**"If your brother sins, rebuke him. If he repents, forgive him."** Luke 17:3

Provide easy, friendly, respectful ways\* for people to inform others as follows:

- Church teaching on abortion and end-of-life: All life is sacred from conception to natural death. An abortion is the killing of a person.
  - Proven facts: Life begins at conception: DNA is finalized.
  - Loving alternatives to abortion
  - Church teaching on voting responsibility
  - Election Facts: Records and positions of candidates and parties: Who will help bring our nation back to God, Family and Fatherhood?
  - Resources to help personal spiritual growth <https://www.consecrationtostjoseph.org>
- \* via links to sections of the COLT website: Building this website is also a mission.

**I AM  
THE WAY,  
AND  
THE  
TRUTH,  
AND  
THE LIFE.**

John 14:17

## MISSIONS FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

**"Let the children come to Me..."** Mark 10:13

Children and teenagers need to get to know Jesus; realize that He loves them unconditionally; and then grow to love Him.

Children and teenagers need Faith-based antidotes to the poison of today's culture.

1. Resources\* for parents to catechize children
2. Resources\* for parenting teenagers
3. Programs & resources\* for parents, e.g.,
  - Catechism of the Good Shepherd
  - Theology of the Body for children
  - Theology of the Body for teenagers
  - Church teaching on sexuality and chastity
  - Antidotes to harmful public school teaching

\* available on (or linked from) the COLT website and parish websites, and in parish libraries

## THE TREE OF LIFE

**"I AM THE VINE, YOU ARE THE BRANCHES... GO AND BEAR FRUIT."**- John 15:5 & 15:16

**BUILD ON ROCK by helping one of these good organizations, with your time or a donation:**

Organization/ Resource	Mission/Service	Website
Genesis of Pittsburgh	Home for Expecting Mothers, Pregnancy Help, Parenting Help, Adoption, Foster Care, Diapers and other Babies' Needs, Clothing for Babies and Children, since 1973	<a href="http://www.genesispggh.org">www.genesispggh.org</a>
Choices	Pregnancy Resource Center with Free Ultrasound	<a href="http://www.choices-for-life.org">www.choices-for-life.org</a>
Women's Choice Network	Pregnancy Resource Center	<a href="http://www.mypregnancycenter.org">www.mypregnancycenter.org</a>
Birthright of Pittsburgh	Pregnancy Resource Center	<a href="http://birthrightpittsburgh.org">birthrightpittsburgh.org</a>
Lifeline of Southwest PA	Pregnancy Resource Center	<a href="http://www.lifelineofsouthwestpa.org">www.lifelineofsouthwestpa.org</a>
East Liberty Womens Care Center, 114 North Highland	Pregnancy Resource Center	<a href="http://www.elwcc.org">www.elwcc.org</a>
Little Lamb Resale 951 Liberty Avenue	Maternity & Infant Clothing, and much more! Friendly haven, 5 doors from Planned Parenthood	<a href="http://www.littlelambresale.com">www.littlelambresale.com</a>
Catholic Charities Pregnancy & Parenting Support Services	Pregnancy Resource Center	<a href="http://www.ccpgh.org">www.ccpgh.org</a>
Walking with Moms in Need	U.S.C.C.B. Program: Parish teams connecting local people with pregnancy resource centers: Contact Deacon Frank Bursic: fbursic@diopitt.org	<a href="http://diopitt.org/walking-with-moms-in-need">diopitt.org/walking-with-moms-in-need</a>
Mary's Place	a home for pregnant and parenting women that provides support in an environment of reverence and love.	<a href="http://www.marysplacepggh.org">www.marysplacepggh.org</a>
Vision for Life (based in Pittsburgh)	Compelling Advertising for Pregnancy Resource Centers, drawing women to the joy of motherhood	<a href="http://www.visionforlifepgh.org">www.visionforlifepgh.org</a>
40 Days for Life	Prayer at Planned Parenthood	<a href="http://www.40daysforlifepittsburgh.com">www.40daysforlifepittsburgh.com</a>
Sidewalk Advocates for Life	Compassionate counselling outside abortion facilities, helping mothers to keep their babies	<a href="http://www.sidewalkadvocates.org">www.sidewalkadvocates.org</a>
People Concerned for the Unborn Child	Pennsylvania's oldest Pro-Life organization, founded in 1969 : Central source for all things Pro-Life	<a href="http://www.pcuc.org">www.pcuc.org</a>
The Magee Project	Restoring a culture of life at Magee Womens Hospital by ending the practicing of abortions	<a href="http://www.pcuc.org/the-magee-project-2021">www.pcuc.org/the-magee-project-2021</a>
Rachel's Vineyard	helping women who have had abortions, emotionally and spiritually, renewing their hearts	<a href="http://www.rachelsvineyard.org">www.rachelsvineyard.org</a>
Angels' Place	Help for single parents and their children	<a href="http://www.angelsplacepggh.org">www.angelsplacepggh.org</a>
LifePAC (Southwest PA)	Pro-Life voting information, listing candidates who are pro-life, from local to State and Federal	<a href="http://www.lifepac.net">www.lifepac.net</a>
Pennsylvania Family Institute	Restoration of Christian Family Values	<a href="https://pafamily.org/">https://pafamily.org/</a>
Pennsylvania March for Life (Annual Rally and March)		<a href="http://www.marchforlife.org/pennsylvania-march-for-life">www.marchforlife.org/pennsylvania-march-for-life</a>