



## Scripture

**Old Testament:** "For as the earth puts forth her blossom or bushes in the garden burst into flower, so shall the Lord God make righteousness and praise blossom before all the nations." Isaiah 61:11 from the Breviary.

**New Testament:** "For I was hungry and you gave me food. I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you made me welcome, lacking clothes and you clothed me..." Matthew 25: 35-36 (The New Jerusalem Bible)

## Catechism

'The corporal works of mercy consist especially in feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, clothing the naked, visiting the sick and imprisoned and burying the dead.'  
Catechism of the Catholic Church #2447

## Comment

As winter deepens and as we progress through Advent ever closer to Christmas, remember those who, for many reasons, social and financial to name but two, have found themselves homeless and may well still be without a roof over their head by Christmas Day. Consider the works of homeless charities who provide shelter, protection, warmth, food and drink, a bed, advice and a helping hand to those in need.

## Organisation of the month

'The Passage' is a charity in London, with its mission and focus based on the teachings of St. Vincent de Paul, the founder of the Daughters of Charity. It provides both emergency shelter and support for those seeking to leave their current state of homelessness. Visit <http://www.passage.org.uk> for more information about the way ahead.

## Pray, Think, Act

**Pray:** that God the Father, in the name of His Son Jesus Christ, may empower you by the Holy Spirit to act with mercy on behalf of those who, like Jesus, Mary and Joseph, had nowhere to go.

**Think:** What are the three greatest risks for someone who is homeless?

**Act:** Visit <http://www.passage.org.uk> for more ways in which you can support the work of The Passage.

*"Do as much as you can. God will do what we ourselves cannot do."  
St John Bosco, Letter to Cagliero, November 13, 1875*