

# Almsgiving

**Matthew 22:36-40:** *Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?"<sup>37</sup> He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.<sup>38</sup> This is the greatest and the first commandment.<sup>39</sup> The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.<sup>40</sup> The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.*

**Matthew 25:31-40:** *When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne,<sup>32</sup> and all the nations<sup>l</sup> will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.<sup>33</sup> He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.<sup>34</sup> Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.<sup>35</sup> For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me,<sup>36</sup> naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.'<sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?<sup>38</sup> When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you?<sup>39</sup> When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?'<sup>40</sup> And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'*

**Isaiah 58:6-7:** *Is this not, rather, the fast that I choose: releasing those bound unjustly, untying the thongs of the yoke; Setting free the oppressed, breaking off every yoke? 7 Is it not sharing your bread with the hungry, bringing the afflicted and the homeless into your house; Clothing the naked when you see them, and not turning your back on your own flesh?*

**CCC 2443:** *God blesses those who come to the aid of the poor and rebukes those who turn away from them: "Give to him who begs from you, do not refuse him who would borrow from you"; "you received without pay, give without pay." It is by what they have done for the poor that Jesus Christ will recognize his chosen ones. When "the poor have the good news preached to them," it is the sign of Christ's presence.*

**2 Corinthians 9:6-7:** *Consider this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully.<sup>7</sup> Each must do as already determined, without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.*