The generous will be blessed, for they share their food with the poor.  
(Proverbs 22:9)

How can your family share your food with the poor?  
Write down your ideas on the Corporal Works of Mercy page.
First Corporal Work of Mercy

FEED THE HUNGRY

Jesus said to them, “I am the living bread which came down from Heaven; if any one eats of this bread, he will live for ever; and the bread which I shall give for the life of the world is My Flesh.”

(John 6:51)
“Lord, when did we see Thee...thirsty and give Thee drink?”...And the King will answer them, “Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.” (Matthew 25:37, 40)

Write down how you can give drink to the thirsty on the Corporal Works of Mercy page.
Saint Mother Teresa of Calcutta said, “We have these words ‘I thirst’ next to the crucifix in our Missionary of Charity chapels to remind us to quench the thirst of Jesus for souls, for love, for kindness, for compassion…’ Until you know deep inside that Jesus thirsts for you—you can’t begin to know who He wants to be for you. Or who He wants you to be for Him.”
Jesus said, “Whoever has two tunics should share with the person who has none.” (Luke 3:11)

Every person, young and old, needs clothing to protect and respect the gift that our bodies are. God will resurrect our bodies for Heaven! You can donate, share, or make clothes for others—what other ways can you clothe the naked?
When Jesus was born, He had no clothes, and when He was crucified, the guards stripped Him of all His clothing before nailing Him to the Cross. “And she gave birth to her first-born son and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger…” (Luke 2:7) “And they crucified Him, and divided His garments among them, casting lots for them, to decide what each should take.” (Mark 15:24)
Not everyone can actually go to a prison, but there are other ways you can show prisoners that Jesus still loves them and thinks of them. You could send rosaries, books, or magazines to prisons, or donate to support people who bring concerts or other beautiful things there. You can also pray like Saint Therese the Little Flower did for a specific prisoner to repent and reconcile with God. Write down your ideas!
When Jesus was arrested, Peter and John followed Him to see what would happen. Peter was scared, so when he was questioned, he denied even knowing Jesus and ran away. But John stayed as close to Jesus as he could—all the way to the foot of the Cross. Think how much this comforted Jesus when He was imprisoned!
We need shelter to protect us from the weather and to give us privacy to feel safe. This is especially important when we are away from our homes.

Think of ideas to help make others feel comfortable and safe, both when they are in their homes and when they are traveling away from home—then write them down on the Corporal Works of Mercy page!
The Holy Family had to leave their home in the middle of the night to escape to Egypt from Herod, who was trying to kill Jesus. Think of how grateful they were to everyone who helped them while they traveled without a home! Jesus said, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay His head.” (Matthew 8:20)
Jesus healed all kinds of sicknesses. Just think: doctors, nurses, and other medical personnel get to take part in this corporal work of mercy for Jesus every day!

We can help the sick and their families, too. What ideas can you think of?
Jesus healed Peter’s mother-in-law of a fever and raised the twelve-year-old daughter of Jairus back to life. “And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the Kingdom, and healing every disease and every infirmity.” (Matthew 9:35)
Seventh Corporal Work of Mercy

BURY THE DEAD

Burying the dead shows respect for the sacredness of the bodies God has given us (which will rise again to eternal life) and also helps those who mourn.

Some ways you can perform this work of mercy are by going to a wake, a funeral, or a cemetery. Can you think of other ways to assist people who are suffering the loss of a loved one?
When Jesus was taken down from the Cross, He was laid in the tomb gently by His Blessed Mother, Joseph of Arimathea, Nicodemus, and some other friends. “They took the body of Jesus, and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. Now in the place where He was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb . . . . They laid Jesus there.” (John 19:40-42)
“My brethren, ... whoever brings back a sinner from the error of his way will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.” (James 5:19-20)

Sin destroys a person’s friendship with God—and only God’s friends can go to Heaven! Encourage someone to stop sinning and invite them to go to Confession with you—it is like inviting them to go to Heaven! What else could you do?
First Spiritual Work of Mercy

ADMONISH THE SINNER

Jesus said, “If your brother sins, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him... there is joy before the angels of God over one sinner who repents.” (Luke 17:3, 15:10)

“By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey His commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments.”

(1 John 5:2-3)
God made our minds to know the truth and to love it. The most important truth is about how to get to Heaven! Because there is evil and sin in the world, our minds often make mistakes and get confused. When you help others know the truth, you are helping them get to Heaven. Jesus said, “I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life . . . . and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” (John 14:6, 8:32). How can you help your friends know the truth about Jesus?
Jesus said to His Disciples about Heaven, “Enter by the narrow gate ... For the gate is narrow and the way is hard, that leads to life...” (Matthew 7:13-14)

“Jesus had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and He began to teach them many things.” (Mark 6:34)
It is easy to get distracted by things in the world today. We can get confused about what God wants us to do, sometimes even doubting what we have been taught by our Catholic Faith. We can be a good friend of God by being a good friend to others, reminding them about God and giving them advice so they keep trying to listen to God and to serve Him—so they can be happy with Him in Heaven!
Jesus said, “Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. ... Do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid.” (John 14:27) A man ran up to Jesus and asked Him, “Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus said, “You know the commandments.” The man replied, “Teacher, all these I have observed from my youth.” And Jesus looking upon him loved him . . .” (Mark 10:17-21)
When bad things happen, we get sad. We can be just like Jesus by showing love to help those who are sad and unhappy. Think of things you can do to make someone feel better and write them down.

“So humble yourself under the mighty hand of God, that He may exult you in due time. Cast all your worries upon Him because He cares for you.” (1 Peter 5: 6-7)
When Jesus’ friend Lazarus died, He went to comfort Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus. The Bible says when Jesus saw them weeping, He was deeply moved, and He wept with them. (John 11:33-35)
We know that even people who really love us can make mistakes. Sometimes they blame us for things we didn’t do or misunderstand what we say. Other people might not like us, so they do mean things to us. When this happened to Jesus, He showed mercy by not getting angry.

What ideas do you have about how you can imitate Jesus in this way?
Jesus said, “You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ But I say to you, offer no resistance to one who is evil. When someone strikes you on your right cheek, turn the other one to him as well.” (Matt 5:38-39)
What do you do when someone tells you they are sorry for something they did? Do you scold them or get angry? Do you tell them, “Never do that again!” That only makes things worse, doesn’t it? Remember what you pray in the Our Father: “Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.” Show mercy to those who hurt you just like Our Heavenly Father shows mercy to you—by forgiving your sins when you ask Him.
Sixth Spiritual Work of Mercy

FORGIVE ALL INJURIES

When they crucified Him, from the Cross Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” (Luke 23:34)

“Forgiveness demonstrates the presence in the world of the love which is more powerful than sin.” (Pope Saint John Paul II)
Prayers asking God for His Mercy on all people support all the other works of mercy that we can do. As Saint Ignatius of Loyola said, we should, “Pray as if everything depends on God, and work as if everything depended on you.” The Bible tells us that to pray for the dead is a “holy and pious thought . . . that they might be delivered from their sin.” (2 Maccabees 12:45)

Whom do you want to remember to pray for? Ask others to pray, too!
Jesus prayed to His Father in Heaven for Lazarus, “Father, I thank Thee that Thou hast heard Me. I know that Thou hearest Me always...” Then Jesus cried with a loud voice, “Lazarus, come out.” The dead man came out! Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.” (John 11:38-44)