

# 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C)

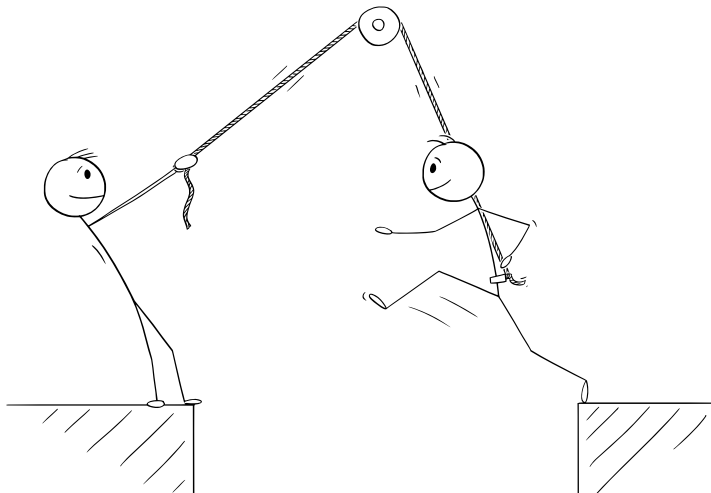
## Luke 6:27–38

*'Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.'*

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'I say to you who hear: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you; and from one who takes away your goods, do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

'If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil.

'Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you; good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.'



## Reflection

Luke 6:27–38 resonates deeply with the life of Blessed Rosalie Rendu, a 19th-century Daughter of Charity who served the poor in the slums of Paris. Her life was a model of the radical mercy and generosity Jesus describes in this passage.

Amid social and political unrest, Rosalie ministered not only to the poor but also to those who were often considered enemies of the people she served. She treated everyone—from government officials to the poor and even those who opposed her work—with respect, kindness, and mercy.

When political tensions were high and violence erupted in the streets, Rosalie provided care and shelter to the wounded from both sides, showing love without discrimination. She didn't just help those who were kind to her or who could repay her; she assisted anyone in need, often risking her own safety and using her resources with no expectation of anything in return. Her merciful actions reflected the heart of Jesus' teaching: "Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

## Materials needed

- Enough 'Kindness cards' for each participant

## Activity

- Share a story about Rosalie Rendu's kindness to everyone, especially the poor and those considered "enemies." Explain that she found small ways to make a difference, regardless of who the person was.
- Give each participant an act of kindness card with an act of kindness, inspired by Rosalie's example, that they can do today eg. Holding the door for someone. Sharing a word of encouragement. Sitting with someone new at lunch. Helping a friend with their work.

## Call to Action

- Find out more this week about the life of Bl Rosalie Rendu