

St. John Vianney Catholic Church

445 82nd Ave.

St. Pete Beach, FL 33706

737.360.1147 • www.stjohnsparish.org

An explanation of the symbols on our stained glass windows.

Spiritual Works of Mercy (7)

(Beginning on the interior south side of the Church on the balcony)

1. **Counsel the Doubtful:** Depicted by a star and steering wheel of a ship.
 2. **Instruct the Ignorant:** Depicted by the lamp of knowledge and books below.
 3. **Admonish the Sinner:** Depicted by the flower Hyssop—"Purge me with Hyssop and I shall be clean." —*Psalms 117*
 4. **Comfort the Sorrowful:** Depicted by incense burner and a veil as Veronica aided Christ on the way to Calvary.
 5. **Forgive all Injuries:** Shafts of wheat turned downward as Christ forgave His Tormentors.
 6. **Bear Wrongs Patiently:** Depicted by yoke of an ox: the ox patiently pulls his burden tied to the yoke.
 7. **Pray for the Living and the Dead:** Depicted by the Tau Cross of Life.
- Chalice *** Representing the Eucharist which is distributed as the spiritual food for the members of the parish.
*Additional window on this side.

Corporal Works of Mercy (7)

(Beginning in the Sanctuary, north side of the Church)

1. **Feed the Hungry:** Depicted by grapes, bread and the horn of plenty. Just as the other side depicts the need of spiritual food, here is depicted that man also needs food for his physical needs; man needs both and cannot survive without one or the other.
2. **Give Drink to the Thirsty:** Depicted pouring the water from a pitcher to a glass.
3. **Clothe the Naked:** Depicted by a garment and sword. As St. Martin cut his cloak in half to give to a poor man something to clothe himself, so should we do likewise.
4. **Visit the Imprisoned:** Depicted by a rose and shackles.
5. **Shelter the Homeless:** Depicted by a house with a cross in front of it, showing a Christian home should always be a shelter for those in need.
6. **Visit the Sick:** Depicted by a crutch and bandages.
7. **Bury the Dead:** Depicted by symbols of palm leaves and linens.

Crown of Thorns and Nails of the Crucifixion *

Only through death do we rise again. Christ—He showed us the way.

* Additional window on this side.