

St. Roch (1295-1327)**Works of Mercy****F E A S T****August 16**

A native of Montpellier, France, St. Roch came into the world with a red birthmark in the shape of a cross on his chest. His parents died when he was a young man, and he set off on a pilgrimage to Rome. On his way he passed through cities where the plague was raging. Roch took care of the sick, and many were cured when he made the sign of the cross over them. He became ill himself but to prevent others from being infected, he went to the woods to die. The story says a dog found him and brought him bread every day.

When he recovered, Roch went back to Montpellier, but he was so changed that no one recognized him. They thought he was a spy and put him in prison. Only after his death, when they saw the red cross on his chest, did they realize whom they had imprisoned. People with any widespread disease ask for St. Roch's protection and aid.

The Corporal Works of Mercy (Matthew 25:35-46)

Look at the Corporal Works of Mercy below. Circle those that St. Roch practiced, or those that someone may have practiced on him. Then explain your answer on the line.

**Feed the hungry.**

**Give drink to the thirsty.**

**Clothe the naked.**

**Shelter the homeless.**

**Visit the sick.**

**Visit the imprisoned.**

**Bury the dead.**
