



# Sons of Saint Joseph <sup>tm</sup>

ST. THERESA ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
5301 MAIN STREET TRUMBULL, CT 06611  
[www.sonsofsaintjoseph.org](http://www.sonsofsaintjoseph.org)

---

## SOSJ –5– SPIRITUAL WORKS OF MERCY Forgive Offenses willingly Saturday, September 2, 2023

### **Romans 12: 9 - 21**

Let love be sincere; hate what is evil, hold on to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; anticipate one another in showing honor. Do not grow slack in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, endure in affliction, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the holy ones, exercise hospitality. Bless those who persecute [you], bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Have the same regard for one another; do not be haughty but associate with the lowly; do not be wise in your own estimation. Do not repay anyone evil for evil; be concerned for what is noble in the sight of all. If possible, on your part, live at peace with all. Beloved, do not look for revenge but leave room for the wrath; for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” Rather, “if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing, you will heap burning coals upon his head.” Do not be conquered by evil but conquer evil with good.

### **Questions**

1. Why do we have the capability of such heated anger? Wouldn't we be better off without it? what is God's purpose with it?
2. What do we do when forgiving seems impossible? We replay the injustice in our head, we feel unrelenting anger, what do we do to stop this self-wounding behavior?
3. When I am able to forgive, what should my relationship be with that person? What are some different circumstances of anger that demand particular and different responses? How do we teach children to forgive as soon as possible?
4. Why is forgiveness so practical as well as first and foremost supernatural? How does Our Lord's Passion and Crucifixion teach us step by step about true forgiveness?