

[Vatican](#)

[Francis, the comic strip](#)

by NCR Staff

[View Author Profile](#)

[Join the Conversation](#)

January 25, 2019

[Share on Bluesky](#)[Share on Facebook](#)[Share on Twitter](#)[Email to a friend](#)[Print](#)

A quote from Pope Francis:

"Mercy must form and inform the pastoral structures of your Churches. ... Do not be afraid of proposing mercy as the essence of what God offers the world. As my venerable and wise predecessor (Pope Benedict XVI) taught, 'it is mercy that puts an end to evil. In it is expressed God's special nature - His holiness, the power of truth and love.' It is the way God opposes the forces of darkness 'with his power, which is totally different and divine.' ...Making mercy pastoral is none other than turning the Churches entrusted to you into houses where holiness, truth and love abide."

— Audience with new bishops, Sept. 16, 2016

Editor's note: We can send you a biweekly email alert with content from The Francis Chronicles. Follow the directions on our [email alert signup page](#).

Advertisement