

## A Little Light: Monday Musings with Mary Sue



### Welcome to the week of July 20!

*"You know what honey, the most important thing we can do is to serve the poor with joy and remember they will teach you so much about Jesus."* My dad would say this to me, and all five of my siblings, all throughout our childhood and even now. Each one of us knows these lines by heart. Now, my son does too.

My dad worked as a mechanical engineer all his professional life and retired 22 years ago. He and his wife Carol moved to California and devoted their lives to ministry. Two times weekly, they make breakfast, go out into the strawberry fields, and feed the migrant workers. In addition, my dad led a men's Cursillo group in the prison. He fell in love with prison ministry and told me story after story of their lives. He would say, *"These men humble me every time I pray with them."*

The photo above is a picture of my 84 year old dad taken last week. He is currently fighting both bladder and pancreatic cancer. However, he joyfully continues to get up each day and make "sock rolls" for the homeless. He takes a pair of socks, a mask, a small bar of soap, a tooth brush/tooth paste, and a comb and rolls them with a rubber band. These little rolls have become quite popular at the homeless shelters my dad works with in San Diego.

As always, my dad continues to inspire me! **Perhaps some of you might want to join me in making these sock rolls? It would be great for the children to get involved and most of these items can be purchased at the dollar store and/or ordered on Amazon.** If you get a bag made, let me know. I will line up a time for you to drop them off at the church and I will get them to the homeless in the Milwaukee area. **SEE LINKS BELOW FOR TED TALK ON COMPASSION and HOMELESSNESS.**

**FACTS:** Homeless people and their advocates say masking up is easier said than done for tens of thousands of people living on the streets. Getting even a makeshift mask — and keeping it clean enough to be sanitary — has been difficult for many.

**LINKS:**

**Ted Talk: Compassion and the meaning of Empathy: Buddhist roshi**

*Joan Halifax works with people at the last stage of life (in hospice and on death row). She shares what she's learned about compassion in the face of death and dying, and a deep insight into the nature of empathy.*

[https://www.ted.com/talks/joan\\_halifax\\_compassion\\_and\\_the\\_true\\_meaning\\_of\\_empathy?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/joan_halifax_compassion_and_the_true_meaning_of_empathy?language=en)

**Song for the Homeless:**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=I14UjeszKAY>

***May the peace and compassion of Jesus guide your week.***

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