## Our Need for Mercy

from Mercy Readings from The Mercy Prayer Book.

Catherine lived a fairly balanced life. Indeed, she was a woman committed to being an instrument of God's mercy to those most particularly in need.

She was also a woman who was united with the compassionate sufferings of Jesus Christ particularly by her presence with those persons who are poor.

At the same time, she was a woman in need of the tender mercy of God...

Forgetting this dimension ... can lead to a kind of deadly seriousness about ourselves ... an over-emphasis on self-reliance and achievement, and a lack of balance between work and leisure, seriousness and play, self and other...

If we worked a little less and spent more time listening to the deepest desires of our own hearts, what would we hear today?

Might we come to that deeper gratitude of heart which Catherine evinced in her daily life for all the ways in which God surrounds us?

