

Spiritual Poverty Amidst A Materialistic Culture

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While the Catholic Church continues to be one of the most significant contributors to alleviating poverty throughout the world, an examination of developed nations suggests that perhaps Mother Church fails to address the spiritual poverty among her more materially privileged daughters and sons.

St. Teresa of Calcutta famously observed, "The greatest disease in the West today is not TB or leprosy; it is being unwanted, unloved, and uncared for. We can cure physical diseases with medicine, but the only cure for loneliness, despair, and hopelessness is love. There are many in the world who are dying for a piece of bread, but there are many more dying for a little love. The poverty in the West is a different kind of poverty – it is not only a poverty of loneliness but also of spirituality. There's a hunger for love, as there is a hunger for God."