

Catholic Social Teaching

The following seven themes highlight some of the key principles that are addressed in Catholic Social Teaching documents.

Life and Dignity of the Human Person

Made in the image and likeness of God, all persons are sacred. Belief in the sanctity of human life and inherent dignity of each person is the foundation of all of our social teachings. Today this value is threatened by abortion, assisted suicide, euthanasia, the death penalty, and the many ways in which people are treated with disregard for their human dignity.

Call to Family, Community and Participation

The human person is social as well as sacred. Our Catholic tradition teaches that human beings grow and achieve fulfillment in community. The family is the central social institution. Family life needs to be supported by other institutions and governments. Excessive individualism, competition and greed work against community and the common good.

Rights and Responsibilities

People have a fundamental right to life and to those things necessary for human decent, such as food, shelter, health care, education and employment. People have a right to participate in decisions that affect their lives. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities to respect the rights of others and to work for the common good. When people lack the basic necessities to live a life of dignity, their fundamental rights are being denied.

Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

Catholic teaching proclaims that the moral test of society is how it treats its most vulnerable members. This calls us to look at public policy decisions in terms of how they affect the poor. In our present society, a minority of 20% of the people control more than 80% of the resources, leaving few resources to be shared by a majority of the people.

Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers

People have a right to humane working conditions, productive work and fair wages. The economy exists to serve the people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected.

Solidarity

We are all one human family, and we are responsible for the well-being of each other. This responsibility reaches across national, racial, ethnic, economic and ideological differences. Indifference to the pain and suffering of others has no place in our interdependent society. We are all responsible for all.

Care for God's Creation

All of creation is a gift from God and should be respected as such. We show our respect by the way we care for the earth as stewards of all that has been entrusted to us. We need to examine how our excessive consumerism and poor environmental practices are exploiting the earth and take measures to correct our destructive patterns.

Leadership of the Diocesan Social Action Office

Kelly Bon, Director

Jeff Campbell, Summit County

Paul Kipfstuhl, Wayne/Ashland/Medina Counties

Anthony Camino, Lake/Geauga Counties

Shawn Witmer, Lorain County

Contact us at DSAO@ccdoble.org or 330-535-2787



Providing Help. Creating Hope. **Serving All.**

Catholic Social Teaching Month Liturgical Resources 2025

Year C includes:

- Rights and Responsibilities
- Call to Participation in Family and Community
- Solidarity
- Dignity of the Human Person



Rights and Responsibilities

31st SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (All Souls Day Weekend)

BULLETIN INSERT

“We must speak of man’s rights. Man has the right to live. He has the right to bodily integrity and to the means necessary for the proper development of life, particularly food, clothing, shelter, medical care, rest, and, finally, the necessary social services. In consequence, he has the right to be looked after in the event of ill health; disability stemming from his work; widowhood; old age; enforced unemployment; or whenever through no fault of his own he is deprived of the means of livelihood.” (Pacem in Terris, 11)

Join us for a video presentation with Catholic Charities Summit County Director Tess Flannery on Rights and Responsibilities, premiering Monday, November 3rd. More details at www.ccdocle.org/cst.

PETITION

May we recognize our responsibilities to insure all people have the basic human rights of life, including food, water, clothing and shelter. We pray to the Lord.

CALL TO ACTION

Organize a prayer service in remembrance of those parishioners who have died in the last year.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you teach us the basic rights each of us possesses. Lord, have mercy.
Christ Jesus, you call us to recognize our duty to protect the rights of all. Christ, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you forgive us when we fail in our responsibilities. Lord, have mercy.

Call to Participation, Family and Community

32nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (Dedication of the Lateran Basilica)

BULLETIN INSERT

The political community, a reality inherent in mankind, exists to achieve and end otherwise unobtainable: the full growth of each of its members, called to cooperate steadfastly for the attainment of the common good (Gaudium et Spes, 74)

Join us for a video presentation with Catholic Charities Help Me Grow Director Brenda Hernandez on Participation, premiering Monday, November 3rd. More details at www.ccdocle.org/cst.

PETITION

May the Church around the world find new and creative ways of nurturing family life, we pray to the Lord

CALL TO ACTION

Host a family rosary night to strengthen bonds and spiritual life at home.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you remind us we are brothers and sisters in God’s family: Lord, have mercy.
Christ Jesus, you teach us to call God our “Father”: Christ, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you call each of us to work for the good of all: Lord, have mercy.

Solidarity

33rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

BULLETIN INSERT

Pope St. John Paul II, in Sollicitudo Rei Socialis, states “Solidarity is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say, to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all.” (Socilitudo Rei Socialis,38)

Join us for a video presentation with Catholic Charities Immigration Legal Services on Solidarity, premiering Monday, November 3rd. More details at www.ccdocle.org/cst.

PETITION

May the Church work for unity and God’s peace throughout the world, we pray to the Lord.

CALL TO ACTION

Connect with a parish of the same name in a foreign country and commit to learning about each other.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you call us to right relationship with God and each other: Lord, have mercy.
Christ Jesus, you remind us that we are brothers and sisters in God’s family: Christ, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you bring peace to all the nations: Lord, have mercy.

Dignity of the Human Person

CHRIST THE KING

BULLETIN INSERT

The dignity of the human person is rooted in his creation in the image and likeness of God (CCC, 1700). As such, ...”all men have the same nature and the same origin. Redeemed by the sacrifice of Christ, all are called to participate in the same divine beatitude: all therefore enjoy an equal dignity.” (CCC, 1934)

Join us for a video presentation with Catholic Charities Bishop Cosgrove Center Director Terrel Valentine on Dignity of the Person, premiering Monday, November 3rd. More details at www.ccdocle.org/cst.

PETITION

May the leaders of our Church promote the dignity of all people, emphasizing we are created in the image and likeness of God. We pray to the Lord.

CALL TO ACTION

Send cards to the elderly in nursing homes.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Lord Jesus, you call us to work for the dignity of all people: Lord, have mercy.
Christ Jesus, you teach us to remember the forgotten: Christ, have mercy.
Lord Jesus, you heal us when we fail: Lord, have mercy.