

Week 1: Dignity of the Human Person

The Catholic Church teaches that every person is created in the image and likeness of God.

Bulletin Inserts

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)

This teaching on the dignity of each person is the starting point and the foundation of all Catholic Social Teaching. It means that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that we are to make every effort to respect that dignity and help each person to flourish (Challenge and Spirituality of CST, Mich)

In 1986, the US Bishops wrote in Economic Justice for All, "As such every human being possesses an inalienable dignity that stamps human existence prior to any division into races or nations and prior to human labor and human achievement."

Discussion questions

What are the current threats to the dignity of each person in today's society?
How can civility be restored in discussions on life issues in the church? In the community?

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

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

