

Week 3: Solidarity

The Catholic Church teaches that we are one human family in solidarity with one another, regardless of our differences.

Bulletin Inserts

Solidarity highlights in a particular way the intrinsic social nature of the human person, the equality of all in dignity and rights and the common path of individuals and peoples toward an ever more committed unity. Never before has there been a widespread awareness of the bond between individuals and peoples, which is found at every level. (CSDC, Pg. 98)

Solidarity emphasizes the universality and interdependence of God's provision for each member of the human race, as well as his call to us to play an active role in that provision. (The Church's Best Kept Secret, Shea pg. 104)

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." (*Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, 38)

Discussion questions

How do we balance our call to charitable action with our discipleship call to share our faith so that we do not impose on the freedom of those receiving our assistance?

What are the consequences of not integrating our social action with the call to "go out into the world to make disciples of all nations?" (Mt 28:18-20)

Petition

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

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

