

Background Material on Catholic Social Teaching

Catholic Social Teaching, Our Best Kept Secret. Henroit, Peter J., DeBerri, Edward P., Schulthesis, Michael J., editors. Orbis Books, Maryknoll, New York. Center of Concern, Washington D.C. 2001 <http://www.maryknollmall.org/description.cfm?ISBN=978-1-57075-485-2>

Catholic Social Thought: The Documentary Heritage. O'Brien, David J., Shannon, Thomas A., eds. Maryknoll, New York. 2002.
<http://www.maryknollmall.org/description.cfm?ISBN=978-0-88344-787-1>

Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church, Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace; United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Washington, D.C. 2004. Provides a complete and systematic overview of the Church's social teaching with an extensive index for easy reference on almost any topic. Order through USCCB, 1-800-235-8722, <http://www.usccbpublishing.org>

Important Documents from the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Order through USCCB, 1-800-235-8722, <http://www.usccbpublishing.org>

Brothers and Sisters to Us/Nuestros Hermanos y Hermanas- The U.S. Bishops promote discussion and action against racism.

Catholic Campaign to End the Use of the Death Penalty Read more about the campaign online. <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/national/deathpenalty> You may also order brochure or bulletin inserts that provide Catholics with information that they need to participate in the Catholic Campaign to End the Use of the Death Penalty.

The Challenge of Peace- U.S. Bishops landmark pastoral letter on nuclear weapons and the arms race.

Communities of Salt and Light: Reflections on the Social Mission of the Parish. Bishops' statement for pastors and parish leaders seeking to strengthen parish social ministry. Presents seven elements of the social mission of parishes as a framework for planning and assessing that ministry. See also the *Parish Resource Manual*.

Economic Justice for All: Pastoral Letter on Catholic Social Teaching and the U.S. Economy and Tenth Anniversary Edition of Economic Justice for All- This tenth anniversary edition of the landmark pastoral letter includes both A Decade After Economic Justice for All and A Catholic Framework for Economic Life.

Everyday Christianity: To Hunger and Thirst for Justice- The most important way lay Catholics work for justice and peace is through their choices every day.

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship (USCCB, 1-800-235-8722)

A call to political responsibility from the Bishops of the United States. Parish planning suggestions, bulletin inserts and more. <http://www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship>

Living the Gospel of Life: A Challenge to American Catholics- Calls U.S. Catholics to recover their identity as followers of Jesus Christ and to be leaders in the renewal of U.S. respect for the sanctity of life.

A Place at the Table: A Catholic Recommitment to Overcome Poverty and the Protect the Dignity of All God's Children- The U.S. bishops remind us that central to our identity as disciples of Jesus Christ, is our concern for those who are poor or suffering.

Resources for Adults

Building Peace and Justice: Adult Workshops, Roberta Ann Leskey and Lucianne Siers. Villa Maria: The Center for Learning, 1990.

This book contains twelve workshops to develop an awareness of the Church's social mission and to enhance leadership training. The time required for each workshop is 2.5 hours.

Catechizing for Justice: A Six-Session Program to Promote the Gospel Mission, Janet I. Miller. San Jose: Resource Publications, Inc., 2001.

Each of the six sessions covers a basic church teaching: human dignity, structural sin, the reign of God, stewardship, globalization, and solidarity. It includes handouts, worksheets, discussion questions, and prayer suggestions.

Order online at <http://www.rpinet.com/products/cfj.html>

Catholic Updates produced by St. Anthony Messenger Press, 1-800-488-0488, many updates contain a social justice theme. Visit www.americancatholic.org/messenger

Doing Faith Justice: An Introduction to Catholic Social Thought, Fred Kammer, SJ

This volume explores the relationship between faith and justice, the backgrounds of Catholic social teaching, and the forces which have shaped the author's own awareness, from his childhood in the South to his development as a Jesuit. Kammer sees a close relationship between private ownership and a neglect of God and human community; he finds this connection both in biblical example and in contemporary society. He proclaims that doing justice is a prerequisite to knowing God, that solidarity with the poor is the Christian stance, and that Christians must move from charity to justice. He concludes with specific suggestions for "faithjustice" and for parish evaluation of its own social ministry. Written from a Roman Catholic standpoint but useful for all religious groups concerned with social justice.

In the Footsteps of Jesus: Resource Manual on Catholic Social Teaching (USCCB 1-800-235-8722) This parish resource includes lesson plans for grades 7- adult, program suggestions, prayer services, and a bibliography of resources on Catholic social teaching.

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship (USCCB, 1-800-235-8722)

A call to political responsibility from the Bishops of the United States. Parish planning suggestions, bulletin inserts and more. <http://www.usccb.org/faithfulcitizenship>

A Framework for Understanding Poverty. Ruby K. Payne. Highlands: aha! Process, Inc.,2001. This resource teaches the hidden rules of economic class and spreads the message that, despite the obstacles poverty can create in all types of interaction, there are specific strategies for overcoming them. To order call 800-424-9484 or go online at <http://www.ahaprocess.com/store/Books.html>

How to Make the World a Better Place: 116 Ways You Can Make a Difference
Jeffrey Hollender and Linda Catling. New York: W.H. Norton and Company, 1995. Whether you are interested in protecting the environment, helping the homeless, or making your community a safer place to live, you'll find the means to get started in this book. Each chapter alerts you to problems requiring attention, and explains the issues and what has to be done about them, tells you what you can do to help, and lists the addresses and telephone numbers of organizations that you can contact.

JUSTFAITH

JustFaith is a conversation-based process that seeks to provide a context in which participants can grow in their commitment to care for the vulnerable and to become advocates for justice. The program is sponsored by Catholic Charities USA and serves to strengthen the growing commitment of Catholic parishes to be instruments of social transformation. Visit www.justfaith.org for more information

Parish Social Ministry: Strategies for Success. Tom Ulrich. Notre Dame: Ave Maria Press, 2001. This book offers practical assistance for parish communities to give witness to the social teaching of the church. It contains strategies for organizing meetings, assessing parish resources, building relationships with pastors and parish councils, and avoiding burnout.

Order online at www.avemariapress.com

Peacemaking Day by Day, Vol. 1 & 2- A Pax Christi best seller, this original book of daily quotes for peacemakers is lively, practical, educational, and inspirational. A great resource for teachers who want to introduce students to peacemakers. Order online at <http://paxchristiusa.3dcartstores.com/search.asp?keyword=peacemaking>

Principles, Prophecy and a Pastoral Response: In this volume, the seven themes of Catholic social teaching are presented with a challenge to today's faithful to put those principles to work at home, in the parish, and throughout the community.

Renewing the Earth (National Catholic Rural Life Conference, 515-270-2634)
Study guides for children, teens, and adults on the bishops' environment statement.

Resources for Small Christian Communities

Reading the Signs of the Times: A Seven-Week Small-Group Process for Social Change,
Resource Publications, Inc.

Seeking Justice: The Public Life of Faith in Small Christian Communities, Buena Vista,
Inc.

*Sharing the Tradition Shaping the Future Series: The Catholic Campaign for Human
Development, United States Catholic Conference*

Sharing the Tradition Shaping the Future: A Christian Community Sharing Experience

The Call to Family, Community and Participation

Dignity of the Human Person: Empowerment and Life

Preferential Option for the Poor

Solidarity with the Poor

RENEW International Impact Series (800) 333-7373:

Beginnings Human and World Issues: Integrating faith and action in response to
people's needs

Beyond Black and White: An invitation toward racial reconciliation and forging bonds of
interracial cooperation

Civic Responsibility What's it All About?

Creative Aging, Making a Difference Later in Life: A look at our call by God to continue
to develop and share our talents and gifts - even into later life

Discipleship of Nonviolence: Practical ways to follow a path of nonviolence modeled on
Jesus' example

Embracing Life: Reflections on a vision of life that holds each person and all creation
sacred

Hunger in God's World: Concrete steps to address the contradiction between God's
intention from the word and widespread hunger

Reflections on "Dead Man Walking"

The World of Work: Dealing with downsizing, impact on family life and other current
issues