Dignity of the Human Person (Social Justice Ministry / Human Concerns)

Love Thy Neighbor

Catholic Social Teaching

The Church’s social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society. In “Love Thy Neighbor,” we highlight themes that are at the heart of our Catholic social tradition.

Catholic Campaign for Human Development Awards nearly $47,000

This month, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development awarded five local grants to organizations that address a wide range of poverty issues in our archdiocese. Grants for 2016-2017 total $46,975.77.

Casa Romero Renewal Center $5,987.88

Casa Romero’s “Creating Urban Heroes: Diversity Ambassadors Project” provides a healing presence to disadvantaged teens by offering them the opportunity to grow together with an increasing sense of dignity and motivation to make a positive impact on society. As they develop their call to leadership, older youth participants may serve as peer mentors and role-models for younger urban youth through retreats and other activities. Ultimately, the project seeks to form social change agents who are empowered to inspire, lead, and encourage others to build community, based in appreciation of diversity, dedication toward unity, and respect for the sacredness of all of creation.

Milwaukee JobsWork $12,500

Milwaukee JobsWork seeks to reduce poverty in Milwaukee by providing a pathway for motivated individuals attempting to change their lives. By restoring dignity and self-esteem, removing barriers to employment success, and acquisition of basic skills, individuals can find and keep a job that provides them with family sustaining wages. Milwaukee JobsWork offers intensive support until individuals achieve their goal of economic self-sufficiency.

Open Door Café’s Cathedral Cooperative $10,000

Cathedral Cooperative launched a new upcycled plastic bag program to help people who are most difficult to employ contribute their gifts and expand economic opportunity for themselves and others. Activities include finding and flattening plastic bags, crocheting, and eventually designing, marketing and selling the products made from plarn. The upcycling component challenges the entire community to reverse the “throwaway culture” and give witness to Pope Francis’ message that “No one is disposable.”

Racine Vocational Ministry $12,500

Kenosha is in need of reentry services in order to reduce recidivism, decrease crime rates, and create a safer community. To meet this need, Racine Vocational Ministry is expanding its Second Chance program to Kenosha to support those returning to the community so they can adjust, stabilize, find employment, and become independent and productive citizens of Kenosha.

Southside Organizing Committee (SOC) $5,987.89

SOC’s Leadership Academy for Neighborhood Associations (LANA) develops the leadership capacity and sustainability of Milwaukee’s most challenged Southside neighborhoods. It works to ensure residents have voice, vote, and a collective vehicle to improve their quality of life and put their needs at the forefront of community development. Near south side residents participate in leadership training and monthly continued leadership development for themselves and their associations.

The next opportunity to apply for local CCHD Grants begins Nov. 4, due Jan. 6, 2017.

National grant recipients will be announced in late July 2016 www.archmil.org/offices/social-justice/news.htm
New School and Parish Partnerships

“Young people demand change. They wonder how anyone can claim to be building a better future without thinking of the environmental crisis and the sufferings of the excluded.”

Pope Francis

Last summer, Pope Francis published his encyclical on the environment called Laudato Si’: On Care of Our Common Home. In response to our call to be stewards of Creation, several high school teachers started the Laudato Si’ Project.

The project’s mission is to restore humanity’s connection to the natural world through education, stewardship, and recreation ministries at schools and parishes.

In partnership with schools, Laudato Si’ Project will help support and supply resources to both religion and science curriculum and engage the students in stewardship projects both at the school and at various natural area sites near the school. These projects can be tailored to meet the specific needs of each school. Assistance in sponsoring recreational outings to connect students to the natural world around them is also offered.

Laudato Si’ Project Teams are being formed at parishes throughout the Archdiocese of Milwaukee. These teams are for interested parishioners to learn about and implement sustainability in their lives and the life of their parish and school. Laudato Si Project Teams can engage in a Laudato Si encyclical study and study of environmental issues happening in our world and local communities. They will also work within the parish to enhance sustainability, work with adult and youth ministry to promote environmental stewardship, and collaborate with the parish school to implement Laudato Si’ initiatives.

Marquette University High School students participating in Laudato Si’ Projects

Who Pays the Price for Our Clothing?

We are increasingly disconnected from the people who make our clothing, possibly because 97% of clothes sold in the U.S. are now made overseas.

There are roughly 40 million garment workers in the world today, many of whom do not share the same rights or protections that many people in the West do. They are some of the lowest paid workers in the world and roughly 85% of all garment workers are women. The human factor of the garment industry is too big to ignore, as we consistently see the exploitation of cheap labor and the violation of workers’, women’s, and human rights in many developing countries across the world.

“The True Cost” is an eye-opening documentary about clothing filmed in countries all around the world. It’s about the clothes we wear, the people who make them, and the impact it’s having on our world. The price of clothing has been decreasing for decades, while the human and environmental costs have grown dramatically. The film pulls back the curtain on an unseen part of our world and asks us each to consider: who pays the price for our clothing?

SEE THE FILM!
Schedule a Free Screening at your Parish or School
Contact Chris Cox
The Human Thread Campaign: Catholics for Clothing with a Conscience
708-315-0571


Did You Know?
Bangladesh is the second largest exporter of apparel to the United States, with workers’ wages averaging only $50 month.*

“One touch of nature makes the whole world kin.”

William Shakespeare

Learn more at www.naturecatholic.org
Contact: Executive Director
Joe Meyer
Laudato Si’ Project
262-308-6641
laudatosiproject@gmail.com

Catholics Care. Catholics Vote.

Elections are a time for debate and decisions about the leaders, policies, and values that will guide our nation. The bishop's Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship gives pastoral guidance to help Catholics exercise their political responsibility in light of our faith. This teaching document integrates new policy developments in the U.S. as well as new papal teachings, including those of Pope Benedict XVI and Pope Francis.

Faithful Citizenship is not a voter's guide or a scorecard of issues. It doesn't offer direction on how to vote, tell Catholics who to vote for, or offer guidance on which candidate or party best reflects the Church's moral framework. Instead, it shares Church teaching to help assess political platforms, campaigns, and some of the important issues that face our communities and world today.

All are welcome to attend the Faithful Citizenship sessions, or contact us to host one.

“We need to participate for the common good.”

Pope Francis

We’ve Launched New Webpages

We’re happy to announce the launch of our newly redesigned Office & Services webpages for Catholic Social Justice Ministry & Dignity of the Human Person.

Our site features an uncluttered design, new content groupings, and simple graphics. We wanted to make the new format easier to navigate and more user-friendly. By browsing through our pages, you’ll get a pretty good idea of who we are, what we do, what we have to offer, and how we can help parishes, schools, and committees. New content is available for:

- Catholic Social Teaching (includes encyclicals, social doctrine, and catechism)
- Catholic Campaign for Human Development
- Catholic Charities
- Catholic Relief Services
- CRS Rice Bowl
- Fair Trade
- Justice for Immigrants
- Public Policy & Legislative Action (includes Faithful Citizenship, Fortnight for Freedom, Protect Religious Freedom and Current Issues)
- Respect Life
- Resources & Newsletters
- Urban Ministry
- Events
- News

Visit us at www.archmil.org/offices/social-justice.htm
Loving God and neighbor in ways that bear fruit in the life of society.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS — 2016 & 2017

July 4
Fortnight for Freedom, Closing Mass with Archbishop Listecki, 8:00 am
Christ King Parish, 2612 N. Swan Blvd., Wauwatosa

July 11 – 14
Theology on Tap, “Love Local: Help Your Neighbor in Crisis”
Free event for young adults, 7:00 pm at 11 sites throughout our diocese
Location details & FAQ: www.johnpaul2center.org/TOT

July 17 – 21
Social Action Summer Institute, Xavier University, Chicago, IL
Theme: “Called to Live Mercy in Our Common Home”

July 12
Year of Mercy Pilgrimage to Global Partners, Running Waters
7:00 pm, 13105 Watertown Plank Road, Elm Grove, WI 53122

July 18 – 21
Theology on Tap, “Love Global: Change the World Right Now”
For young adults, 7:00 pm at 11 sites throughout our diocese

July 25 – 28
Theology on Tap, “Love the Stranger: Protect the Dignity of Immigrants”
For young adults, 7:00 pm at 11 sites throughout our diocese

August 1 – 4
Theology on Tap, “Live Mercy: Make it Real”
For young adults, 7:00 pm at 11 sites throughout our diocese

Sept & October
Faithful Citizenship Sessions (see page 3 for schedule and locations)

November
National Catholic Prison Ministry Conference, Cousins Center, Milwaukee, WI
10 & 11
“Concluding the Year of Mercy Behind Bars”

March 28, 2017
Catholics at the Capitol, Monona Terrace, Madison, WI

National Catholic Prison Ministry Conference, November 10 & 11

The Archdiocese of Milwaukee will host the National Prison Ministry Conference at the
Archbishop Cousins Catholic Center on Thursday and Friday, November 10 & 11, 2016.

Topics include: families of victims and the incarcerated, immigration/detention, juvenile
outreach, pastoral care for prisoners, re-entry, restorative justice, and death row ministry.

Check in begins Thursday afternoon at 1:00 pm, with
educational sessions beginning at 2:00 pm.
Featured speakers:
- Rev. Greg Boyle, Homeboy Industries-Los Angeles
- Sr. Helen Prejean, “Dead Man Walking”
- Jeanne Bishop, “Change of Heart” Family-Offender Restorative Justice
- Rev. Ron Cloutier, Lazarus House, Reentry Program
- Amalia Molina, Offender Family Outreach
- Elena Segura, Director of the Office for Immigration Affairs
- Rev. George Williams, San Quentin Death Row Ministry

Learn more at www.dismasministry.org