

Social Justice

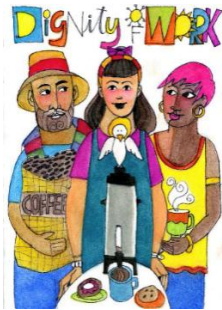
Catholic Social Teaching and Pope Leo XIV's Encyclical "Magnifica Humanitas"

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The origin of Catholic Social Teaching as we know it today actually began with Pope Leo XIII and his encyclical letter, "Rerum Novarum." This letter addressed all of the social inequalities that existed during the industrial age. It offered encouragement and proposed solutions endorsed by the Catholic Church. It was the beginning of Catholic Social Doctrine. Catholic Social Doctrine gave rise to the principles of Catholic Social Teaching which we wholeheartedly embrace today.

The foundational principle of Catholic Social Teaching is our belief that each person is made in the image and likeness of God. Therefore, each person possesses a dignity which deserves respect that both recognizes and honors it. It is this principle along with other elements of Catholic Social Teaching that Pope Leo offers as a tool for discerning the development and use of AI, artificial intelligence, which has become a dominant force in our world today. Pope Leo encourages all to look at AI through the lens of truth, responsibility, work, freedom, solidarity, peace and the common good.

For Pope Leo, the question is not simply to accept or reject AI but will it be used to promote the dignity of the human person and to improve the common good. This will be explored as we continue our journey through "Magnifica Humanitas."



Themes of Catholic Social Teaching

1. Life and dignity of the human person
2. Call to family, community and participation
3. Rights and responsibilities
4. Option for the poor and vulnerable
5. The dignity of work and the rights of workers
6. Solidarity
7. Care for God's creation