

DISCIPLESHIP MISSION

Each candidate is invited to become involved in an area of Discipleship (Service) as part of their Confirmation journey.

The idea of service begins with a call. The world tells us our gifts and talents are for personal gain - what do I get out of it? What will it do for me? God's call is different; it allows us to share our lives with others in response to knowing our gifts, talents and passions are from God. Young people are on a path of discovery; they are apprentices in an area of service to God. Trust that the Holy Spirit will guide you into an area of service.

Where and when should we serve?

Do not put any limit on the service area; you can serve in the church, in school, with family, in the neighborhood or for an organization. It does not need to be a new area of service - but consider if Confirmation Discipleship presents you with an opportunity to explore a new way of serving others. Remember, service is the life of discipleship! Allow your passionate heart to serve God. Pray that He will bring opportunities to serve Him with all your heart, with your entire mind, and with all your strength. Our home church also has many opportunities to serve!

In our Year 2 of the Confirmation journey, we will facilitate group Discipleship Missions that align with our Catholic Social Teaching to celebrate the ways we are living their faith through service. **All of what is required is to attend one of the provided opportunities in the parish to complete this requirement.**

INSTRUCTIONS for Independent Discipleship Mission:

If you choose to not attend one of the facilitated group Discipleship Missions, in addition of volunteering, you will need to create an online display of the service for credit. Projects will only be accepted that were done during their 1st or 2nd year of Confirmation Preparation. Be as creative as you like! You may use Powerpoint or Google Slides for your display. Use at least 2 pictures you have taken during your area of service, logos of the organization you served with, etc. **Include some brief descriptions of why/where/when/how you contributed. In addition, you will also need to explain which Catholic Social Teaching is being displayed throughout your discipleship and why (see handout for guidance).**

Due on April 14, 2024

www.holytrinityladera.org/sacraments/confirmation/



@holytrinityyouthministry



THEMES FROM 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. Modern Catholic social teaching has been articulated through a tradition of papal, conciliar, and episcopal documents. The depth and richness of this tradition can be understood best through a direct reading of these documents. In these brief reflections, we highlight several of the key themes that are at the heart of our Catholic social tradition.



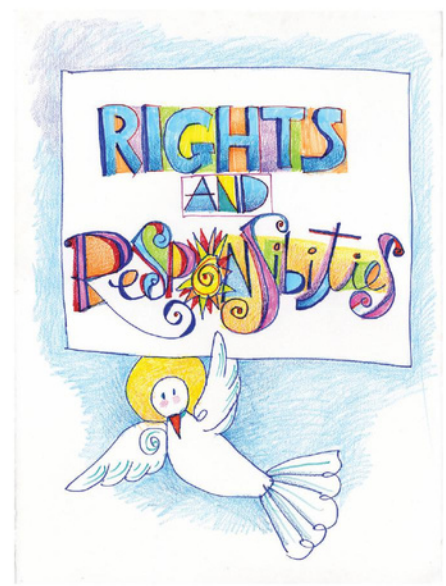
LIFE AND DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred and that the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. This belief is the foundation of all the principles of our social teaching. In our society, human life is under direct attack from abortion and euthanasia. Human life is threatened by cloning, embryonic stem cell research, and the use of the death penalty. The intentional targeting of civilians in war or terrorist attacks is always wrong. Catholic teaching calls on us to work to avoid war. Nations must protect the right to life by finding effective ways to prevent conflicts and resolve them by peaceful means. We believe that every person is precious, that people are more important than things, and that the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.



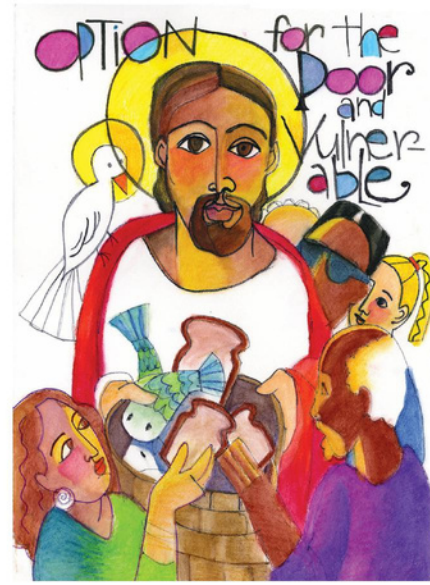
CALL TO FAMILY, COMMUNITY, AND PARTICIPATION

The person is not only sacred but also social. How we organize our society—in economics and politics, in law and policy—directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. Marriage and family are the central social institutions that must be supported and strengthened, not undermined. We believe people have a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable.



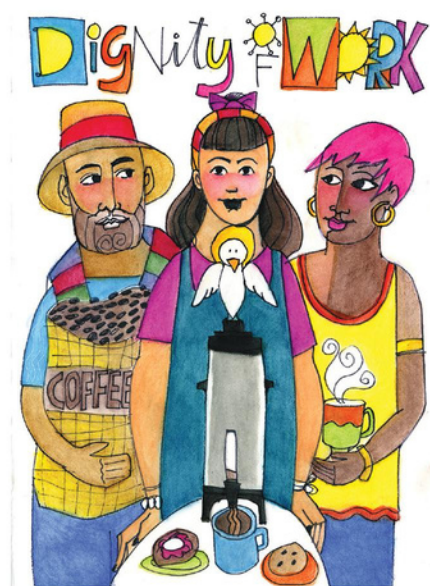
RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities are met. Therefore, every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities—to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.



OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE

A basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. In a society marred by deepening divisions between rich and poor, our tradition recalls the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46) and instructs us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.



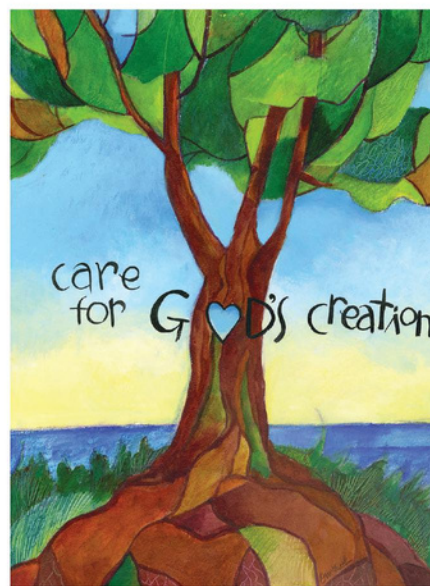
THE DIGNITY OF WORK AND THE RIGHTS OF WORKERS

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God's creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected, then the basic rights of workers must be respected—the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to the organization and joining of unions, to private property, and to economic initiative.



SOLIDARITY

We are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers, wherever they may be. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world. At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Blessed Pope Paul VI taught that "if you want peace, work for justice."¹ The Gospel calls us to be peacemakers. Our love for all our sisters and brothers demands that we promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.



CARE FOR GOD'S CREATION

We show our respect for the Creator by our stewardship of creation. Care for the earth is not just an Earth Day slogan, it is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all of God's creation. This environmental challenge has fundamental moral and ethical dimensions that cannot be ignored.



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¹Paul VI, *For the Celebration of the Day of Peace* (Rome: January 1, 1972).