



"THROUGH HIS CROSS AND RESURRECTION, CHRIST UNITED THE ONE HUMAN RACE TO THE FATHER."

-Open Wide Our Hearts, U.S. Bishops

WAYS TO ACT JUSTLY

The Center for Social Concerns invites you to join us as we consider our theme, "Act Justly," and confront racial injustice throughout the 2019-2020 academic year.

"The cumulative effects of personal sins of racism have led to social structures of injustice and violence that makes us all accomplices in racism."

- Open Wide Our Hearts

For more information, visit socialconcerns.nd.edu.

Work for Racial Justice.

Read Open Wide Our Hearts. Attend "Show Some Skin." Attend a "Let's Talk About Race" dialogue. *"Love compels each of us to resist racism courageously. It requires us to reach out generously to the victims of this evil,...and to begin to change policies and structures that allow racism to persist."* OWH

Help Educate.

Visit institutions of culture and learning. Participate in a Center for Social Concerns seminar. Speak against racial injustice in class and in the Observer. *"All our educational institutions (are charged) to break any silence around the issue of racism, to find new & creative ways to raise awareness, analyze curricula, and to teach the virtues of fraternal charity."* OWH

Advocate Respect for All Life.

Volunteer. Practice faithful citizenship. Participate in Student Coalition for Immigration Advocacy. *"We call on the members of the Body of Christ to join others in advocating and promoting policies at all levels that will combat racism and its effects in our civic and social institutions."* OWH

Volunteer Now.

Tutor. Work with local refugees. Do a domestic or International Summer Service Learning Program. *"We call on everyone...to help repair the breach caused by racism, which damages the human family."* OWH

Build Long Term Endurance.

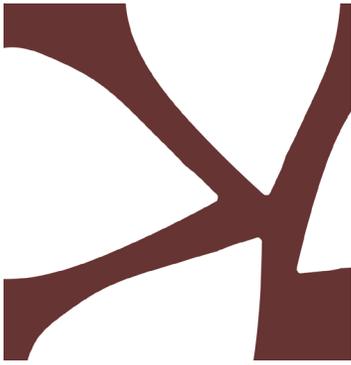
Become a Catholic Social Tradition Minor or Poverty Studies Interdisciplinary Minor. Attend March for Life. *"Racism is a life issue. Accordingly, we will not cease to speak forcefully against and work toward ending racism."* OWH

Pray.

Support canonization of first African American saint. Attend Voices of Faith Choir event. *"As in all things, we turn to prayer, asking Our Blessed Mother to intercede on our behalf."* OWH

Promote Sustainability.

Bring re-useable drinking containers to dining halls. Ask for Italian Roast when at Starbucks, which is fair trade. Get to know the Office of Sustainability efforts on campus. *"This is the original meaning of justice, where we are in right relationship with God, with one another, and the rest of God's creation."* OWH



ABOUT CATHOLIC SOCIAL THOUGHT

Catholic social thought encompasses aspects of Catholic doctrine relating to matters dealing with the collective welfare of humanity. A distinctive feature of Catholic social thought is its concern for the poorest members of society. This concern echoes elements of Jewish law and the prophetic books of the Old Testament, and recalls the teachings of Jesus Christ recorded in the New Testament.

The foundations of modern Catholic social thought are widely considered to have been laid by Pope Leo XIII's 1891 encyclical letter *Rerum Novarum*. From this founding document, subsequent papal documents, conciliar documents, and statements from Bishops' conferences in the past 125+ years, several principles can be drawn.

For more readings and resources on Catholic Social thought visit socialconcerns.nd.edu

PRINCIPLES OF

CATHOLIC SOCIAL THOUGHT

1 THE COMMON GOOD

We are called to be ministers of hope for others to serve the greater good. In community we realize the fulfillment of our dignity and rights in relationship with others.

2 THE LIFE AND DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON

All people are a reflection of the image of God and thus all human life is sacred. We are all called to pursue peace and help overcome poverty, racism, and other conditions that demean human life.

3 RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

People have basic rights and responsibilities that derive from their dignity as creatures made in God's image. Catholic teaching emphasizes that people have a right to life and to the basic necessities that provide quality to life: food, shelter, health care, education, and employment. We are called to respect the rights of others and to seek the common good.

4 DIGNITY OF WORK AND RIGHTS OF WORKERS

Work is an expression of our dignity and an expression of our involvement in God's creation. Our work should empower us to create a better future; it should never demean or detract from our inherent human dignity.

5 OPTION FOR THE POOR AND VULNERABLE

While the common good embraces all, those who are in greatest need deserve preferential concern. A moral test for society is how we treat the weakest among us.

6 CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION

Care for the earth is a duty of our Catholic faith. We are all called to be careful stewards of God's creation and to ensure a safe and hospitable environment for vulnerable human beings now and in the future.

7 LIVING SOLIDARITY

We are all responsible for all. As members of the common human family, we should strive to foster community and to live in solidarity with all our neighbors.