

# CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING ELEMENTARY COURSE OF STUDY GRADE 6

## SCRIPTURE BASE

The students will:

- use some passages from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scripture) to show how the Church's teaching on social justice is rooted in Scripture; e.g., Gen 1-2: 4, Dt. 30, Micah 6, Lev. 25.
- be able to evaluate and respond to current issues in light of Gospel values.

## THE MISSION OF THE CHURCH

The students will:

- know that service, sharing and witness are a part of the total mission of the Church and the responsibility of each member.
- recognize and experience service as an essential element of discipleship.
- realize that Christian responsibility includes daily concern for missions in the world through prayer and giving.

## BASIS IN TRADITION

### Primary Principle

The students will:

- know and understand that the primary principle of Catholic social teaching is "The Life and Dignity of the Human Person."
- know and be able to apply the principle of "The Life and Dignity of the Human Person" to situations where life is not respected; e.g., abortion, immoral sexual activity, prejudice (race, religion, gender), abuse, bullying, harassment, teasing, drug/alcohol abuse, suicide, etc.

### Other Principles (cf. "Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching" Handout #1)

The students will:

- know the principle of the "Call to Family, Community and Participation"; discuss the family as an authentic Church community and the role of families in serving the mission of the Church; (e.g., stewardship, missions, family prayer, participation in parishes and community.)

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING  
ELEMENTARY COURSE OF STUDY  
GRADE 6**

- understand that from the principle of “The Life and Dignity of the Human Person” flows the principle of “Rights and Responsibilities”; e.g., the rights to the basic necessities of life, to education, to employment, etc. and the responsibilities to families, schools, communities and to respect the rights of others.
- know the principle of the “Option for the Poor and Vulnerable”; understand and explain why Christian responsibility includes special care for those who are poor and vulnerable.
- know the principle of “Solidarity”; recognize the interdependence of the human family: person to person, and nation to nation.
- know the principle of “Care for God’s Creation”; know that Catholic tradition states that one way to respect God as Creator is to be good stewards of creation.
- be able to apply the following principles of Catholic social teaching: “Life and Dignity of the Human Person,” “Call to Family, Community and Participation,” “Rights and Responsibilities,” “Option for the Poor and Vulnerable,” “Solidarity,” and “Care for God’s Creation.”

**HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING**

The students will:

- be familiar with the ministry of:
  - St. Martin de Porres (Option for the Poor and Vulnerable)
  - St. Paul (Rights and Responsibilities)
  - St. Elizabeth of Hungary (Option for the Poor and Vulnerable)
  - modern-day role models, such as the Women of El Salvador (Jean Donovan, Sr. Dorothy Kazel, Sr. Ita Ford, and Sr. Maura Clarke); Bishop Oscar Romero (Call to Family, Community and Participation)

**PERSONAL APPLICATION**

The students will:

- recognize the talents they have and how these may be shared in the service of others in family, parish, local and national community.
- pray that God will give them the courage to respond appropriately to the needs of others.
- perform service projects based on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. (cf. Service Handout #3)

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING  
ELEMENTARY COURSE OF STUDY  
GRADE 6**

- develop realistic expectations of service and action and reflect on their experiences
- know some non-violent responses and situations and be able to apply them.