

Why do Journey to Justice?

Journey to Justice reveals new ways to act compassionately and justly.

"Really brought the head and the heart together."

- College Student
Archdiocese of Cincinnati

"The Word proclaimed in the Eucharist must affirm and celebrate the parish's work for charity, justice and peace. The Word must inspire social analysis and a concerted action, leading the people of God to a renewed commitment to the poor."

(In All Things Charity: A Pastoral Challenge for the New Millennium
- US Catholic Bishops, 1999)

PARISH RETREAT PHASE

The retreat phase begins on Friday evening and ends on Sunday afternoon. It includes the following eight sessions:

SESSION 1: Preferential Option for and With the Poor

- naming fears and values

SESSION 2: Entering Scripture

- examining and reflecting on Scripture

SESSION 3: Common Ground/an Immersion Experience

- meeting with a CCHD or other empowered low-income group

SESSION 4: What We've Seen and Heard

- reflecting on the Immersion Experience

SESSION 5: Sin and Grace

- understanding the concepts of "social sin" and God's grace

SESSION 6: Social Analysis

- using the Pastoral Circle to examine a root cause of poverty

SESSION 7: Prayer and Imagination

- imagining anew how to address the causes of poverty

SESSION 8: Commitment Service

- committing to work on justice issues in the community beyond the retreat weekend

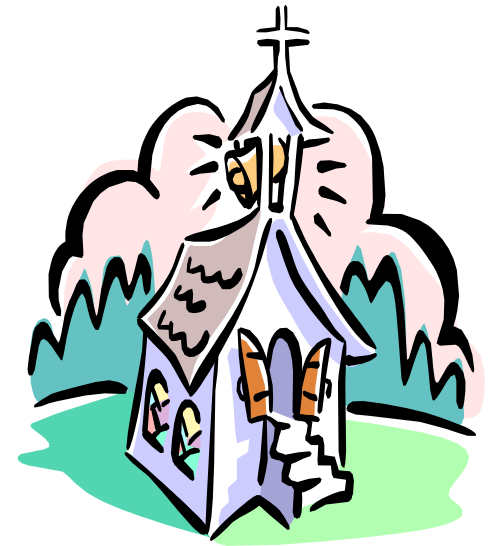
Note: In some instances, Journey to Justice is incorporated in the JustFaith Program.

(See www.justfaith.org.)



Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)

Journey to Justice



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www.usccb.org/cchd/journeytojustice.htm

What is Journey to Justice?

The Journey to Justice process is an opportunity to act on the Church's social mission, especially the preferential option for and with the poor.

Journey to Justice aims to increase awareness and concern about the circumstances that create poverty among those who are more economically advantaged.

Engaging in a Journey to Justice process often sets the groundwork for building solidarity in a community between those who are economically poor and those who are not.

The Journey to Justice process is designed to "effect in [the non-poor] a conversion of heart, a growth in compassion and a sensitivity to the needs of their brothers [and sisters] in want."
(CCHD Resolution, 1970)

PRE-RETREAT PHASE AND PLANNING

Key steps in initiating the Journey to Justice process in a diocese include:

1. **Contacting the Education Coordinator for the Catholic Campaign for Human Development**
2. **Developing the Journey to Justice vision and timeframe for the diocese**
3. **Obtaining a commitment to participate from a CCHD or other empowered low-income group**
4. **Organizing a team to plan and run the retreat**
5. **Developing and initiating a recruitment strategy**



POST-RETREAT STEPS

The post-retreat phase of Journey to Justice is, perhaps, the most important and the most challenging part of the total process:

It includes steps such as:

- De-briefing the retreat experience
- Forming small communities of faith
- Building partnerships with a Catholic Campaign for Human Development funded group or other empowered low-income group
- Developing new skills in areas such as organizing, advocacy and leadership development
- Repeating the retreat for others
- Supporting the annual CCHD parish collection