



## WEEK 6

# The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers

Work is more than a way to make a living; it is a form of continuing participation in God’s creation. The spring season and Easter allow us to experience awe and wonder at God’s creation and remind us how God’s creation relates to our concern for the dignity of work and the rights of workers.

*“The obligation to earn one’s bread by the sweat of one’s brow also presumes the right to do so. A society in which this right is systematically denied, in which economic policies do not allow workers to reach satisfactory levels of employment, cannot be justified from an ethical point of view, nor can that society attain social peace.”*

St. John Paul II, *Centesimus Annus*, no. 43

### Sacred Scripture

“Woe to him who builds his house on wrongdoing,  
his roof-chambers on injustice;  
Who works his neighbors without pay,  
and gives them no wages.”

Jeremiah 22:13

### Sacred Tradition

“Access to employment and to professions must be open to all without unjust discrimination: men and women, healthy and disabled, natives and immigrants. For its part society should, according to circumstances, help citizens find work and employment.”

*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, no. 2319

### Catholic Social Teaching in Action



State Catholic conferences around the country promote statewide legislation to uphold the rights of workers, such as workers suffering from heat stress, pregnant workers’ rights, minimum wage, affordable housing, and much more. Research how to get involved with your local state Catholic conference at [nascgd.org](http://nascgd.org).

### Prayer for Work

Creator God,  
thank you for providing us  
with the gift to share our talents.

Provide our community, our nation, our world  
the fortitude to provide work for all  
which is decent and fair.

Make us faithful stewards  
of your creation  
to enhance the human dignity  
of our global family.  
Amen.