

7 themes of *Catholic Social Teaching*

Life and Dignity of the Human Person

The Catholic Church proclaims that human life is sacred from conception to natural death, 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. The Church works to ensure all people can live in circumstances befitting their human dignity.

"The world exists for everyone, because all of us were born with the same dignity. Differences of color, religion, talent, place of birth or residence, and so many others, cannot be used to justify the privileges of some over the rights of all."

Pope Francis, *Fratelli Tutti*, no. 118

Sacred Scripture

"God created mankind in his image;
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them."

Genesis 1:27

Sacred Tradition

"Every human life, from the moment of conception until death, is sacred because the human person has been willed for its own sake in the image and likeness of the living and holy God."

Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 2319

Catholic Social Teaching in Action

The USCCB advocates for policies that protect vulnerable people through social programs. Learn more at usccb.org/sjp.

Charitable organizations like local Catholic Charities and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul respond to needs such as housing, food, and healthcare today.

Prayer for Life and Dignity

Eternal God, creator and sustainer of life, bless us with the courage to defend all life from conception to natural death.

Bless us with the strength to respect all peoples from east to west, from north to south, so that we may truly follow the call of Jesus to be neighbor.

We ask this in the name of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

usccb.org/sjp