

7 themes of *Catholic Social Teaching*

Solidarity

The Church teaches that we are one human family whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. Loving our neighbor has global dimensions in a shrinking world. At the core of the virtue of solidarity is the pursuit of justice and peace. Our love for all our sisters and brothers calls us to promote peace in a world surrounded by violence and conflict.

"[Solidarity] is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress at the misfortunes of so many people, both near and far. On the contrary, it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself to the common good; that is to say, to the good of all and of each individual, because we are all really responsible for all."

Saint John Paul II, *Sollicitudo Rei Socialis*, no. 38

Sacred Scripture

"If [one] part suffers, all the parts suffer with it; if one part is honored, all the parts share its joy."

1 Corinthias 12:26

Sacred Tradition

"The principle of solidarity, also articulated in terms of 'friendship' or 'social charity,' is a direct demand of human and Christian brotherhood."

Catechism of the Catholic Church, no. 1939

Catholic Social Teaching in Action

Catholic Relief Services offers opportunities for Catholics to support policies that impact vulnerable communities around the world.

U.S. Catholics are also invited to take up the call to be "salt of the earth" and "light of the world" at usccb.org/csl with materials that can help faith communities be living examples of solidarity in action.

Prayer for Solidarity

Almighty and ever-living God,
empower your one human
family to join hands
on our journey of faith.
Send us your spirit of hope,
so that we may work
to alleviate human suffering
and foster charity and justice
in our world.
Amen.