

# CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING ELEMENTARY COURSE OF STUDY GRADE 4

## SCRIPTURE BASE

The students will:

- use some passages from the New Testament (Christian Scripture) to show how the Church's teaching on social justice is rooted in Scripture; e.g., Mk 6:30-44, Lk 10: 25-37, Lk 16: 19-31.
- know that all service and ministry find their source in the life and mission of Jesus, as revealed in the Scriptures.

## SACRAMENTAL BASE

The students will:

- know that Baptism calls them to witness a new way of life; to spread the Good News to all peoples.
- know that prayer helps them to know God's will and guides them to follow it.

## 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 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., pollution, child abuse, animal cruelty, excluding others, etc.

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**Other Principles** (cf. handout #1 “Seven Principles of Catholic Social Teaching”)

The students will:

- know 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 food, shelter, clothing, etc.; the responsibility to family members and the responsibility to respect the rights of others.
- know the principle of the “Option for the Poor and Vulnerable”; realize that 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.
- know the principle of “Care for God’s Creation”; realize that all of the earth is God’s creation and people are responsible to care for it.
- be able to apply the following principles of Catholic social teaching: “Life and Dignity of the Human Person,” “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. Francis of Assisi (Care for God’s Creation)
  - Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini (Solidarity)
  - St. Charles Lwanga (Rights and Responsibilities)
  - modern-day role models, such as Mother Teresa, Pope John XXIII and Pope John Paul II. (Option for the Poor and Vulnerable, Solidarity)

## **PERSONAL APPLICATION**

The students will:

- recognize the talents they have and how these may be shared in the service of others in family and parish.
- pray for others in need so that God and people will help them.
- perform service projects based on the Corporal and Spiritual Works of Mercy. (cf. Service Handout #3)

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- reflect on their experience of service.
- know some non-violent responses and situations and be able to apply them.