

Catholic Social Teaching Cards



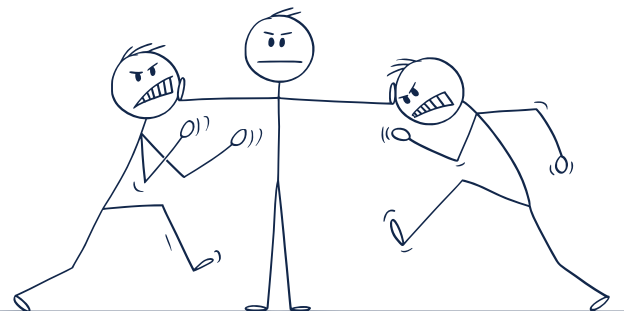
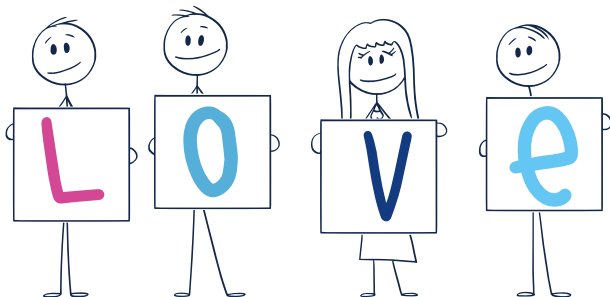
Preferential Option for the Poor

The option for the poor is simply the idea that, Christians are obliged to promote social justice. It indicates an obligation on our part to care for the poor and vulnerable, which includes all those who are disadvantaged, isolated or marginalised in society: widows, children, people with disabilities, the elderly, and victims of oppression, among others.



Community & Participation

As humans we were not created to live alone, but in community. We should therefore pursue the common good for a community. Every member of society has a duty to develop this common good and every member has a right to enjoy the benefits brought about by it.



Peace & Reconciliation

The Church teaches us that peace is central to the gospel and represents a challenge to many contemporary attitudes and assumptions. The Church's line is clear: we should all use non-violent methods to resolve conflicts. Pope Francis has also challenged Christians to be true peacemakers bringing forgiveness and non-violent solutions to situations of hurt and violence.



Human Dignity

We are all brothers and sisters, and this requires us to respect, value and uphold a common dignity for ourselves and each other. As human beings we are created in the image and likeness of God so therefore we have an inherent worth and distinction.



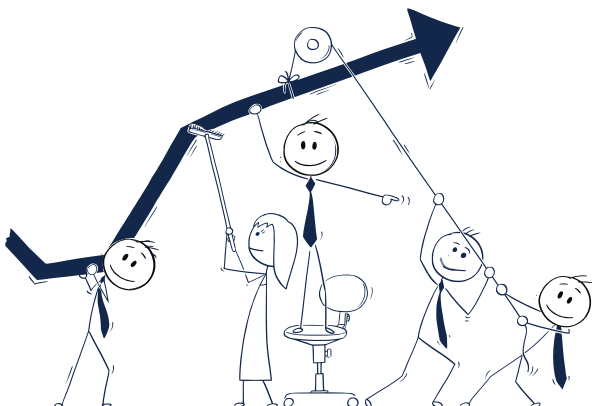
Care for Creation

Caring for the environment we live in is to extend justice to all of creation including both human and non-human. We should also understand that our place on earth is interdependent on all of her life as it is the natural world which provides us with food, medicines, resources and clothing. Jesus inspires Catholics to address issues to reverse the destruction of God's creation.



Dignity of Work

The Dignity of Work in Catholic Social Teaching declares that all humans have a right to work, safe working conditions and living wages. Workers have a right to organize and form unions. In turn, workers are responsible for contributing a day of fair labour that works toward the common good of the society.



Solidarity

Solidarity is an important concept for Christians and is one of the most mystical and deeply human founding concepts of the social teaching of the Church. It is based on the belief that together we can make a difference and together we are much stronger. When we value fellow human beings we respect each other as unique individuals and we can stand up for what is right for one another.

