

Catholic Social Teaching Bulletin Blurbs -- March 2012

Sisters and Associates,

Please offer these bulletin blurbs to your pastor and if possible, talk up our Congregational effort to share Catholic Social Teaching: the “best kept secret of our Church”. Feel free to adapt these blurbs but we’d appreciate it if you kept the acknowledgement from our Congregation.

The General Council
The Commission for Justice

March 4, 2012

If the organization and structure of economic life be such that the human dignity of workers is compromised, or their sense of responsibility is weakened, or their freedom of action is removed, then we judge such an economic order to be unjust, even though it produces a vast amount of goods, whose distribution conforms to the norms of justice and equity. *Pope John XXIII Christianity and Social Progress 1961#83*
(Compliments of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Philadelphia: www.ssiphila.org)

March 11, 2012

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Work is more than a way to make a living. It is a form of continuing participation in God’s creation. If the dignity of work is to be protected then the basic rights of the worker must be respected – the right to productive work, to decent and fair waged, to organize and join unions, to private property, and to economic initiative. *Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions, USCCB* (Compliments of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Philadelphia: www.ssiphila.org)

March 18, 2012

Among the most important duties of employers, the principal one is to give all workers what is justly due them...They must remember that no laws, either human or divine, permit them for their own profit to oppress the needy and the wretched or to seek gain from another’s want. To defraud people of their due wage is a great crime that calls down avenging wrath from Heaven. *Pope Leo XII Rerum Novarum #20*(Compliments of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Philadelphia: www.ssiphila.org)

March 25, 2012

In the Catholic tradition, work is not a burden, not just how we make a living. Work is a way of supporting our family, realizing our dignity, promoting the common good and participation in God’s creation. ...Decisions made at work can make important contributions to an ethic of justice. Catholics have the often difficult responsibility of choosing between competing values in the work place. This is a measure of holiness. *To Hunger and Thirst Justice : A Pastoral on Lay Discipleship for Justice in a New Millennium*
(Compliments of the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Philadelphia: www.ssiphila.org)