

THE IMMACULATA

LIFE, PEACE & JUSTICE MINISTRIES

“Love One Another”

Catholic Social Teaching: Call to Family, Community and Participation



Photo by Tyler Nix on Unsplash

“Effective social ministry helps the parish not only do more, but be more...more of a reflection of the Gospel, more of a worshipping and evangelizing people, more of a faithful community. It is an essential part of parish life. We need to build local communities of faith where our social teaching is central, not fringe; where social ministry is integral, not optional, where it is the work of every believer, not just the mission of a few committed people and committees.” -United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, “In the Footsteps of Jesus” 2004

God calls each of us as disciples to participate in the support of Family and Community. In “Open Wide Our Hearts” the Bishops call for concrete action to seek justice and right relationships in our communities. Our faith is rooted in the mystery of the Trinity: the divine relationship between the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We are called to live this Trinitarian reality of self-giving love. It is through the community that the dignity of every individual is realized. And it is out of the community that we are sent to love and serve the world.

We learned early in life the fourth commandment to honor our father and our mother. The Catechism of the Catholic Church reminds us that this commandment extends to our whole community: the extended family, elders, ancestors, teachers, employers, leaders of our country.

Pope Francis points out that in our shrinking world, we have a responsibility to honor and respect the peoples of the world. “Human life is inherently social, and how we relate to each other in society impacts our ability to grow in community.” A recent example comes from the quick response of the Catholic Relief Services for the victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

Let us ask ourselves:

1. How can I contribute to my family and community understanding of the right of all to live in peace and harmony?
2. How can I stay informed and make my voice heard when I am aware that problems face my local community?
3. How can my attitudes and interactions empower others for positive change for poor persons living and working in our communities?



Image Courtesy of Turcilo

Wisdom from Pope Francis.

“For most of us, the family is the principal place in which we begin to ‘breathe’ values and ideals, as we develop our full capacity for virtue and charity”

-Complementarity Between Man and Woman November 2014



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WATCH



How can we exist without Family? Without Community?

We as human beings are meant to live in relationship, loving those in our families, our Church, our community, our world. Not to be bystanders or observers.

[Watch now...](#)

READ



How do we teach our children what it means to belong? USCCB

recommends reading “Everyone Belongs” with your children. It teaches young readers the power of respect, understanding and friendship.

[Read now...](#)

PRAY



St. Augustine said, **“He who sings prays twice.”**

Join us in praying this well-know hymn which sets the tone of WELCOME in our parish home — **“All are welcome in this place.”**

[Pray now...](#)