

# The Bulletin

St Anne of the Heights • Jersey City, NJ

September 18, 2016  
Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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## No servant can serve two masters





# SAINT ANNE OF THE HEIGHTS CHURCH

3545 Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City, NJ 07307  
Tel: 201-360-0838 Email: [info@sahjerseycity.com](mailto:info@sahjerseycity.com)  
Fax: 201-721-5996

Parish registration:  
General parish feed:  
Website:

[sahjerseycity.com/register](http://sahjerseycity.com/register)  
[@stah\\_nation](https://twitter.com/stah_nation)  
[sahjerseycity.com](http://sahjerseycity.com)

## Pastoral Team

**Fr. Nigel** Parish Priest  
**Fr. J. Ranieri** Weekend Assistant  
**Msgr. L.J. Miller** Weekend Assistant  
**Fr. D.X. Stump, S.J.** Weekday Assistant

**Mrs. J. Waddleton & Lt. J. Carroll** Trustees

## Weekly Planner

### SUNDAY 9/18

#### 25<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### Catechetical Sunday

10:00 AM CCD Family Mass *Church*

### MONDAY 9/19

3:30—4:30 PM Legion of Mary  
*Cent Hall*

### TUESDAY 9/20

12:15 PM Bingo *Cent Hall*

### WEDNESDAY 9/21

6—8 PM Daisy/Jr. Mtg  
*Cent Hall*

### THURSDAY 9/22

9:30—10:30 AM Holy Hour for Priests  
*Church*

7-9 PM Choir Practice  
*2<sup>nd</sup> FL Convent*

### FRIDAY 9/23

12:15 PM Bingo *Cent Hall*  
7—10:30 PM J&M Healing Mass  
*Church/Cent Hall*

### SUNDAY 9/25

#### 26<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

10 AM CCD Family Mass  
*Church*

## Sick List

Let us pray for the sick (People will remain on sick list for 2 weeks unless otherwise notified): Juliet Nawrocki, Doreen Busacca, Kathleen Link, Orlando Basile, Marie Carlson, John Norton, Patricia Kucinski, Frank McNamara, Jennifer O'Connor, Donna Tuzzo, Matt Bolger, Lawrence Shin, Lupe Pena, Frances Kearns, Josephine Cermak Rowan, Steve & Rachel Mastin, Diane Shea, Joseph Callandrillo, Humberto Quintana, Javier Vega, Jennifer Moloughney, Antoinette Maddi, Carol Jordan, Anthony Biggio, Sammy DeLeon, Shane Quinn, Alice Daly, Sadie Krieger, Dolores DelMonte, Dianne O'Sullivan, Carl Carlson, Larry Bello, Miyuki Campbell, Diane Albert, Meghan Connaughton

## Baptism Information

Families are asked to please contact the Rectory for further information on preparing for the sacrament of Baptism.

## Mass Intentions — September 19<sup>th</sup>—25<sup>th</sup> 2016

Date	Time	Offered for	Offered by
Mon 9/19	9 AM	Lawrence Shin	Family
Tues 9/20	9 AM	† Christina Burke	
Wed 9/21	9 AM	† Giuseppe Belfiore	Daughter-in-law, Toni
	7 PM	Special Intention	OL Perpetual Help Group
Thurs 9/22	9 AM	Walsh Family	James Walsh
Fri 9/23	9 AM	St. Padre Pio	Toni Belfiore
Sat 9/24	9 AM	† Mary Frances Clerici	Marie Carlson
	5:30 PM	† Dr. Rudy Narag	John & Debby Faherty
	7:00 PM	† Christopher Rosado	Family
Sun 9/25	8 AM	† Michael Clifford	Marie Carlson
	10 AM	† Maria Rose Leono	Goldsworthy Family
	12 PM	† Christina Burke	

## Sanctuary Gifts — September 18<sup>th</sup>—24<sup>th</sup> 2016

Gift	In memory of	Requested by
Altar Wine	Giulia Annicchiarico	Parish Intention
Altar Bread	Nick Zabala	Wife, Ruth
Sanct. Lamp	Agnes Cassely	Parish Intention
Altar Candles	Carmine Salvemini	Parish Intention

## Family Faith Formation

Please contact Rectory for more information. Please follow the Twitter channels of the parish:

- [@sah\\_promise](https://twitter.com/sah_promise)
- [@sah\\_goodnews](https://twitter.com/sah_goodnews)
- [sah\\_venture](https://twitter.com/sah_venture)
- [sah\\_visions](https://twitter.com/sah_visions)

Faith Formation Grade 2—3

Faith Formation Grade 4—6

Faith Formation Grade 7—8

Registration: [sahjerseycity.com/ccd](http://sahjerseycity.com/ccd)

## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN AND ADDRESSING ABUSE:

**The Archdiocese Addresses Victims' Concerns** — The Archdiocese takes very seriously the needs of victims who approach the Church seeking healing from abuse. In addition to offering counseling and other support services, in appropriate cases, the Archdiocese provides reasonable compensation to those victims seeking a financial settlement of their civil claim, even after the statute of limitations has lapsed. Settlements are not confidential unless requested by the victim, and may include funding for continued psychological counseling.

The Archdiocese's general liability insurance coverage is the sole source of funds used to pay abuse settlements. Although the Archdiocese, parishes and schools pay premiums to purchase insurance, no parish or school assets, Archdiocesan assets or Annual Appeal or other fundraising collections are used to pay civil claims related to abuse cases.

## Sacrament of Matrimony

In accordance with archdiocesan policy, couples contemplating marriage are asked to begin the sacramental preparation program at least one year in advance of the wedding date. Please contact the Rectory for further information.

## Ministry to the Sick

We hope to give to all the sick and aged in our parish the opportunity to receive the Eucharist. If you or someone you know can no longer get to church, and would like a Eucharistic Minister to bring you Communion, please call **St. Anne's Rectory** at 201-360-0838 or [info@sahjerseycity.com](mailto:info@sahjerseycity.com)

## Twenty-Fourth Annual Liturgy of the

# BLUE MASS

HONORING AND IN MEMORY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL

### Trooper Eli McCarson

NEW JERSEY STATE POLICE

### Trooper Sean Cullen

NEW JERSEY STATE POLICE

### Sr Corrections Officer Nikeelan (Nick) Semmon

NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

### Remembering Fallen Officers

Dallas and Dallas Rapid Transit Police Depts, Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Police Depts and East Baton Rouge Sheriff's Office

Lieutenant (Ret.) Joseph Franklin  
ROXBURY POLICE DEPARTMENT - POLICE UNITY TOUR

15th Anniversary of 9/11  
Port Authority Police Department

## THURSDAY, NOV 10, 2016-10 AM

Cathedral Basilica of the Sacred Heart  
RIDGE STREET, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

Most Reverend John J. Myers, J.C.D., D.D.  
ARCHBISHOP OF NEWARK - PRINCIPAL CELEBRANT AND HOMILIST

LUNCHEON TO FOLLOW  
BRANCH BROOK PARK ROLLER RINK  
BRANCH BROOK PARK, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

**\$20 PER TICKET**

FOR TICKET INFORMATION CONTACT DETECTIVE (RET) VINCENT NARDONE OR UNDERSHERIFF WILLIAM SCHIEVELLA: 1-800-427-7651 OR [BLUEMASS@EMBARQMAIL.COM](mailto:BLUEMASS@EMBARQMAIL.COM)

**TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR**

# Serve Others

We must resist temptations that distance us from our service to others. Instead, like Jesus, we must serve without asking for anything in return and avoid transforming our service "into a power structure", Pope Francis said in 2014.



In November 2014, the Pope based his homily on the Gospel of the Day from St Luke which recounts Jesus' parable of the "unprofitable servant". Pope Francis said it teaches us what service means for a Christian. Jesus speaks of a servant who, after working all day, comes home and instead of resting still has to serve his master:

"Some of us would advise this servant to go to his trade union for some advice, on how to deal with a boss like that. But Jesus said, 'No, service is total', because His path was this attitude of service; He is a servant. He presents himself as a servant, the one who came to serve and not to be served: He says so clearly. And so, the Lord shows the Apostles the path of those who have received the faith, that faith which works miracles. Yes, this faith will do wonders on the path of service."

The Pope added, a Christian who receives this gift of faith in Baptism, but who does not carry forward this gift on the path of service, becomes a Christian without strength, without fertility". In the end, he warned, he becomes "a Christian out for himself, to serve himself." His is a "sad life", "the many great things of the Lord" are "wasted".

Pope Francis reaffirmed that the Lord tells us that "service is total", we

cannot serve two masters" either we serve God or we serve riches. We may distance ourselves from this "attitude of service, first of all out of laziness, which cools our hearts "making them lukewarm, laziness makes us comfortable".

"Laziness distances us from work and leads us to this ease, this selfishness. Many Christians are like this ... they are good, they go to Mass, but only serve to a certain point ... But when I say service, I mean everything: service to God in worship, in prayer, in praise; service to others, when I have to do it; service to the very end, because Jesus is strong in this: So should it be with you. When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants. Gratuitous service – service that asks for nothing in return'."

Pope Francis continued that we also distance ourselves from this attitude of the service, when we try to "take over control of the situation". The Pope said this is something that "happened to the disciples, the Apostles themselves": They would distance people so as not to disturb Jesus, so they could be at ease". The disciples, he said, "took control of the Lord's time, took control of the power of the Lord: they wanted Him all for their little group". They "took over control of

this attitude of service, turning it into a power structure".

The Pope said we can understand this dynamic from observing the discussion between James and John about who was the greatest. Their mother "goes to ask the Lord for one of her sons to be Prime Minister and the other minister of the economy, with all the power in hand". This happens even today when "Christians become masters: masters of the faith, masters of the Kingdom, masters of Salvation". This happens; it is a temptation for all Christians. Instead, the Lord speaks to us about service: "Service in humility", "service in hope, and this is the joy of Christian service".

"In life we have to struggle so much against the temptations that try to distance us from this attitude of service. Laziness leads to ease: half-hearted service; taking control of the situation, and to becoming master instead of servant, which leads to arrogance, pride, to treating people badly, to feeling important 'because I am a Christian, I have salvation', and so many things like this. The Lord gives us these two great graces: humility in service, in order to be able to say, 'We are unprofitable servants - but servants - until the very end'; and hope while waiting for the manifestation, when the Lord will come to us".

## God before Money

Today's Gospel sounds puzzling to contemporary readers, but it can be made less so by considering the economic system which stands behind the parable. A steward is dismissed because he is squandering his master's property. He is called dishonest because he is not serving the interests of the rich man, his employer. In response the stew-



ard, in an attempt to ensure favor for himself among the rich man's debtors, brokers repayment of the rich man's loans by foregoing the interest and fees that had been levied to line the steward's pockets. It is this action, in which the steward puts aside his greed and takes the longer perspective in order to enhance his security, which is commended by the rich man.

The passage concludes with three morals for the listeners. The first exhorts the listener to be prudent about the use of wealth. Like the steward in the parable, those who would follow Jesus must put transitory affairs in proper perspective. Christians should handle the affairs of temporal life with an eye toward eternal life.

The second concerns trustworthiness. Those who can be trusted in small things can also be trusted in great things. If Christians handle money and other passing things responsibly, then they can also be trusted with the affairs of the Kingdom of God.

Finally, Jesus tells his listeners that no one can serve two masters simultaneously. God must be put ahead of money.

# Update Your Compliance For “Protecting God's Children”

A gentle reminder



Attending a “Protecting God's Children” Workshop is a requirement by the Archdiocese of Newark every three years; updated background checks and documentation are required every five years.

This is a reminder, to please contact St. Anne's Rectory if you feel you are due to update either the PGC workshop and/or your background check and documentation.

We do not have enough people who need to attend a workshop, therefore, a workshop will not be scheduled here at St. Anne's Parish. DO NOT REGISTER WITH VIRTUS; Contact Georgene at the rectory for her to call to reserve your spot at one of the following local PGC Workshops:

**BAYONNE: Tues., Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> 5:00 pm - Marist High School, Room 204; 1241 Kennedy Blvd.**

**BAYONNE Thurs., Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> 7:00 pm – St. Henry School (basement), 625 Avenue C in Pine Room; Parking lot on W. 28th St.; arrive by 6:45 pm**

**JERSEY CITY Sat., Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> 9:00 am - Our Lady of Czestochowa School, 120 Sussex St.**

## For Online Recertification of Protecting God's Children

If you are recertifying your Protecting God's Children by doing the online option, please ensure you are reading the monthly articles in addition to doing the annual recertification module. Your account may be suspended in Virtus when no articles have been read in the previous year, and you will be unable to volunteer.

## Class of 1972 Graduates!!

Looking for 1972 Graduates from St. Anne's Grammar School JC Heights. 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Reunion Celebration Scheduled for 2017. **Please contact: [jam24336@aol.com](mailto:jam24336@aol.com) and/or look for our page on Facebook "St Anne School JC Heights Class of 72".**

## Register for Your PreCana

If you are planning your Catholic Marriage, you need to register for PreCana, the spiritual session to help you better understand the Sacrament of Matrimony to prepare for a joyful marriage.

UPCOMING SESSION:

**Saturday, October 22, 2016**  
at St Lawrence in Weehawken  
and Ss Peter & Paul in Hoboken  
near Lincoln Tunnel and I-495

Register at [spphoboken.com/precana](http://spphoboken.com/precana)



## Morning of Mercy

Join the Archdiocesan Mini-Pilgrimage for the Year of Mercy



The Archdiocese of Newark Evangelization Commission invite you to Morning of Mercy on Saturday, September 24, 2016 from 9:30 AM until 12:30 PM at the Divine Mercy Parish, 232 Central Ave, Rahway. Join us and receive the graces of the Jubilee Year of Mercy!

The Jubilee Year of Mercy invites everyone to receive the grace of a plenary indulgence (that's a full pardon from sin and all its effects) through The Holy Door (which represents the Door of Mercy through which anyone who enters will experience the love of God who consoles, pardons, and instills hope), Mass, Confession, Adoration and various prayers help to make this happen. Special Guest: Msgr Joseph Reilly, Missionary of Mercy

## September Prayer Intentions of the Holy Father

**UNIVERSAL: Centrality of the Human Person** — That each may contribute to the common good and to the building of a society that places the human person at the center.

**EVANGELIZATION: Mission to Evangelize** — That by participating in the Sacraments and meditating on Scripture, Christians may become more aware of their mission to evangelize.

## Fathers Whose Children Have Died

The needs of fathers who have suffered the loss of a son or daughter are unique. The Office of Family Life Ministries of the RCAN invites all grieving fathers to a morning of prayer, sharing, and discussion, away from societal expectations. The Support Group for Fathers Whose Children Have Died will meet on Saturday, September 17, 2016 at Notre Dame RC Church (in the Parish Center), 359 Central Avenue, North Caldwell at 10AM. **Pre-registration is requested at 973-497-4327**



## SDA Open House Events

Saint Dominic Academy, Jersey City will host Open House events on Thursday, October 13 (6-8pm) and Sunday, October 16 (1-3pm). The events will feature club and athletic demos, academic presentations, tours, and complete details about the application process for Grades 7-12. Additionally, SDA announces "Walk Through Wednesdays" when parents (and students, if they are available) will be able to visit SDA every Wednesday, beginning on September 21, between the hours of 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. No appointment is necessary. Information about the Academy and its application and admission processes, including the Freshman for a Day program can be found on the website ([www.stdominicacad.com](http://www.stdominicacad.com)). Questions can be directed at any time to Andrea Apruzzese, Director of Saint Dominic Academy Admissions at 201-434-5938, ext. 14 or to [aapruzzese@stdominicacad.com](mailto:aapruzzese@stdominicacad.com). Saint Dominic Academy is located at 2572 Kennedy Blvd., Jersey City.

## Open House at Saint Peter's Prep

Saint Peter's Preparatory School will be holding its 2016 Fall Open House on Sunday, October 2, from 1:00– 4:00 at the school's campus in historic downtown Jersey City. Faculty and staff as well as coaches, students and parents, will be present to answer questions about the school, and tours of the campus will be provided. Founded in 1872, Saint Peter's Prep is an independent, college preparatory school for boys and it remains New Jersey's only Jesuit high school. **For more information on the Fall Open House, please call 201-547-6389.**

## Benedictine Retreats

The Benedictine Sisters invite alumnae to Benedictine Academy Alumnae Retreat at the Monastery on **Saturday, October 1, 2016** from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Cost: \$30 includes lunch. To register contact: Barbara Arminio La Mort '67 908-987-0048, [babslamort@Hotmail.com](mailto:babslamort@Hotmail.com)

Benedictine Center of St Walburga Monastery, Elizabeth, NJ offers "**Laudato Si**" **October 29, 9AM-3:30 PM**. All are invited to join us in reflecting on major themes of Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si* to find practical ways to care for the earth. \$35 for the day, lunch included. Women are invited to spend the weekend, October 28-30. \$135. For information and registration contact Sr Marita, 908-353-3028, [maritaosb@aol.com](mailto:maritaosb@aol.com)

Benedictine Center of St Walburga Monastery, Elizabeth invites all to "**Lord Teach Us to Pray**," **November 26, 9AM-3:30 PM**. Jesus responded to this request by teaching the Our Father. What can this beautiful prayer reveal to us about our own prayer? \$35 for the day, lunch included. Women are invited to spend the weekend, November 25-27. \$135. For information and registration contact Sr Marita, 908-353-3028; [maritaosb@aol.com](mailto:maritaosb@aol.com)

# St Joseph Shrine Trip

Bus ride to St. Joseph Shrine in Stirling, New Jersey sponsored by the St. Padre Pio Prayer Group on Saturday, September 24, 2016. Board bus at 8:30 am at St. Anne's Church. Bring your own lunch. Please respond as soon as possible; bus seating is limited.



**For more information, please call Fran Spazian at 201-653-1318. Enjoy a day of reflection, prayer and joy!**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1, 2016**

# 20/20 Vision Conference

Please come to the 20/20 Vision Conference on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016 from 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM at Evangel Church, 1251 Terrill Rd. in Scotch Plains, NJ. This historic, non-denominational event is designed to incrementally end abortion by collaborating with churches and educating the public about the humanity of the babies in the womb. World-class pro-life speakers include: Stephanie Gray (Love Unleashes Life), Maureen Condic, PhD (University of Utah), and Tina Whittington (Students for Life). \$50 per person before September 15th, \$65 thereafter. Pre-registration is required. Please call 973-497-4500 or visit [BabiesintheWombFeelPain.com](http://BabiesintheWombFeelPain.com) for more information. This initiative has the support of the NJ Catholic Conference of Bishops.

# Catholic High School Entrance Exam (COOP)

Attention families of 8th grade students wanting to attend Catholic High School in Fall 2017! The Catholic High School entrance exam (COOP) will be given on November 11, 2016. Students need to register for this exam starting September 1 here, or by calling 1-888-921-2667, or emailing [support@coopexam.org](mailto:support@coopexam.org).

In addition, the Catholic High Schools are holding their annual admissions fair called HS EXPO. At HS EXPO, parents and students can see many schools at once — college fair style — from 7:00 pm until 8:30 pm on the following dates and places:

- September 26 Archdiocesan Center in Newark
- September 28 Visitation Academy in Paramus
- September 29 Primary Prep/St Aeden in Jersey City

**For directions and more information visit: [Catholic-schoolsnj.org](http://Catholic-schoolsnj.org) or call 973-497-4258.**

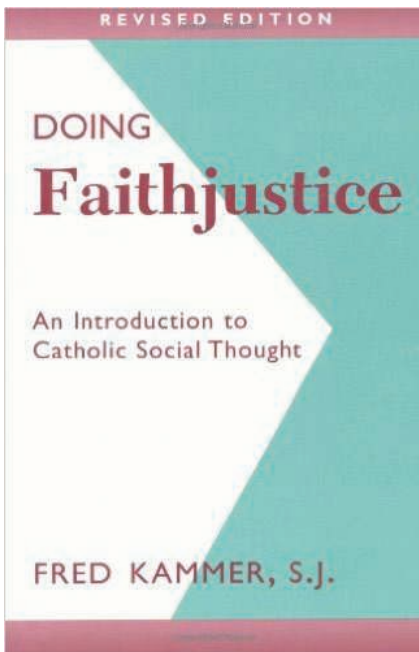


### Sunday Readings / Lecturas del Domingo

First Reading / Primera lectura	<b>AM 8:4-7</b>
Psalm / Salmo	<b>PS 113:1-2, 4-6, 7-8</b>
Second Reading / Segunda lectura	<b>1 TM 2:1-8</b>
Gospel / Evangelio	<b>LK 16:1-13</b>

### Weekday Readings / Lecturas del Día

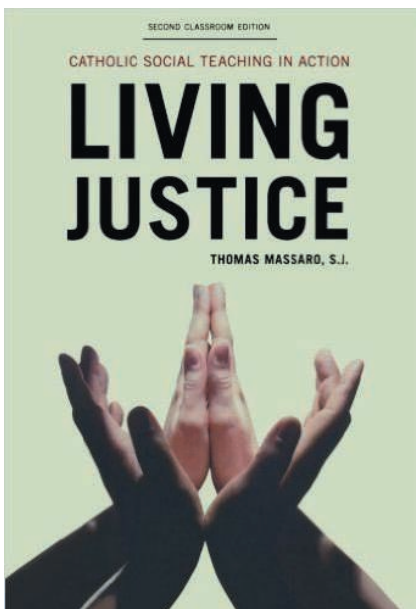
<b>Mon</b> PRV 3:27-34 / PS 15:2-3A, 3BC-4AB, 5 / LK 8:16-18
<b>Tue</b> Memorial of Saints Andrew Kim Tae-gõn, Priest, and Paul Chõng Ha-sang, and Companions, Martyrs PRV 21:1-6, 10-13 / PS 119:1, 27, 30, 34, 35, 44 / LK 8:19-21
<b>Wed</b> Feast of Saint Matthew, Apostle and evangelist EPH 4:1-7, 11-13 / PS 19:2-3, 4-5 / MT 9:9-13
<b>Thu</b> ECCL 1:2-11 / PS 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 AND 17BC / LK 9:7-9
<b>Fri</b> Memorial of Saint Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest ECCL 3:1-11 / PS 144:1 B AND 2ABC, 3-4 / LK 9:18-22
<b>Sat</b> ECCL 11:9—12:8 / PS 90:3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14 AND 17 / LK 9:43B-45



## ***Doing Faithjustice: An Introduction to Catholic Social Thought* by Fred Kammer**

[amzn.com/0809142279](https://www.amazon.com/0809142279)

In this revised edition of a longtime bestseller, lawyer, activist and Jesuit priest Fred Kammer ushers Catholics into the twenty-first century as he confronts the challenge of human poverty and injustice in the context of our consumer-driven, economically fragile world. He defines faithjustice as "...a passionate virtue which disposes citizens to become involved in the greater and lesser societies around themselves in order to create communities where human dignity is protected and enhanced, and gifts of creation are shared for the greatest good of all..." Writing with passion and conviction, he explores the biblical grounding for this virtue and provides an overview of its historical development in the Catholic community. And he brings out its contemporary meaning, rooting each chapter in concrete times and places. He concludes with a framework for living faithjustice in our time. This revised edition contains new materials on social teaching documents of the nineties, updated economic and social data and analysis.

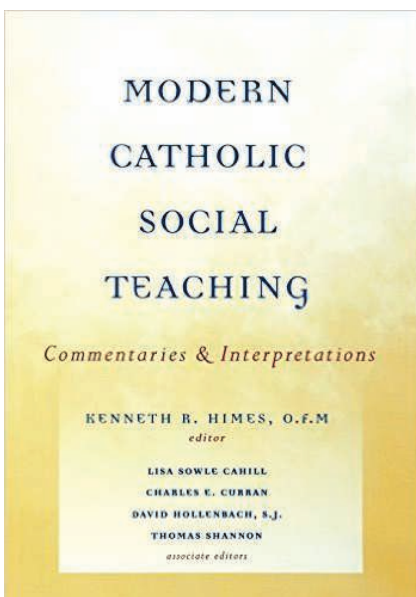


## ***Living Justice: Catholic Social Teaching in Action* by Thomas Massaro SJ**

[amzn.com/1442230924](https://www.amazon.com/1442230924)

Now in its third edition, *Living Justice* is an ideal introduction to Catholic social teaching. Thomas Massaro introduces readers to the history and basics of Catholic social teaching while highlighting new developments and helping readers understand how to apply this teaching to life today.

*Living Justice* leads readers step-by-step through the building blocks of Catholic social thought, including its central themes, sources, and methods. Along the way readers encounter great heroes of social change and prophets of peace and justice. The third edition features significant updates throughout, including extensive coverage of Pope Francis and his two major social teaching documents: *Evangelii Gaudium* on gospel-grounded justice and *Laudato Si'* on the environment.



## ***Modern Catholic Social Teaching: Commentaries and Interpretations* by Kenneth R. Himes**

[amzn.com/1589010531](https://www.amazon.com/1589010531)

With an equal emphasis on every word in the title and with a distinctly American perspective, Himes and his distinguished associate editors and contributors, have assembled the most thorough and authoritative assessment of modern Roman Catholic social teaching to date, likely to remain the touchstone volume for decades. This culmination of many years of effort by twenty stellar scholars has produced a reference work for anyone interested in understanding or studying the key documents that comprise the central corpus of Catholic social teaching. In addition to interrogations of the major documents, this volume provides an understanding of the biblical and philosophical foundations of Catholic social teaching, addresses the doctrinal issues that arise in such a context, and explores the social thought leading up to the "modern" era, generally accepted as beginning in 1891 with the publication of Pope Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum*.

# Examination Of Conscience In Light Of Catholic Social Teaching

There are many models to examine our conscience and prepare ourselves for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This week we bring you one focused on Catholic Social Teaching.

## Life and Dignity of the Human Person



- Do I respect the life and dignity of every human person from conception through natural death?
- Do I recognize the face of Christ reflected in all others around me whatever their race, class, age, or abilities?
- Do I work to protect the dignity of others when it is being threatened?
- Am I committed to both protecting human life and to ensuring that every human being is able to live in dignity?

## Call to Family, Community, and Participation



- Do I try to make positive contributions in my family and in my community?
- Are my beliefs, attitudes, and choices such that they strengthen or undermine the institution of the family?
- Am I aware of problems facing my local community and involved in efforts to find solutions? Do I stay informed

and make my voice heard when needed?

- Do I support the efforts of poor persons to work for change in their neighborhoods and communities? Do my attitudes and interactions empower or disempower others?

## Rights and Responsibilities



- Do I recognize and respect the economic, social, political, and cultural rights of others?
- Do I live in material comfort and excess while remaining insensitive to the needs of others whose rights are unfulfilled?
- Do I take seriously my responsibility to ensure that the rights of persons in need are realized?
- Do I urge those in power to implement programs and policies that give priority to the human dignity and rights of all, especially the vulnerable?

## Option for the Poor and Vulnerable



- Do I give special attention to the needs of the poor and vulnerable in my community

and in the world?

- Am I disproportionately concerned for my own good at the expense of others?
- Do I engage in service and advocacy work that protects the dignity of poor and vulnerable persons?

## The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers



- As a worker, do I give my employer a fair day's work for my wages? As an owner, do I treat workers fairly?
- Do I treat all workers with whom I interact with respect, no matter their position or class?
- Do I support the rights of all workers to adequate wages, health insurance, vacation and sick leave? Do I affirm their right to form or join unions or worker associations?
- Do my purchasing choices take into account the hands involved in the production of what I buy? When possible, do I buy products produced by workers whose rights and dignity were respected?

## Solidarity

- Does the way I spend my time reflect a genuine concern for others?
- Is solidarity incorporated into my prayer and spirituality? Do I lift up vulnerable people throughout the world in my prayer, or is it reserved for only my personal concerns?



- Am I attentive only to my local neighbors or also those across the globe?
- Do I see all members of the human family as my brothers and sisters?

## Care for God's Creation



- Do I live out my responsibility to care for God's creation?
- Do I see my care for creation as connected to my concern for poor persons, who are most at risk from environmental problems?
- Do I litter? Live wastefully? Use energy too freely? Are there ways I could reduce consumption in my life?
- Are there ways I could change my daily practices and those of my family, school, workplace, or community to better conserve the earth's resources for future generations?

*This week, spend some time reflecting on whether you try enough to follow the Catholic Social Teaching and what you could do to improve the way you try to put them into practice. Pray on it, and if your conscience is burdened, find reconciliation in the Sacrament.*

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