

## 7 Core Values of Catholic Social Teaching

### Life and Dignity of the Human Person:

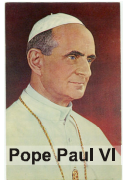
Every life is precious. People and their growth are more important than material things. Peace is a prerequisite for human security and dignity.



### Call to Family, Community and Participation:

Social organisation directly affects the dignity and growth of individuals. All have a right and duty to participate. The common good comes before individual wealth.

**Rights & Responsibilities:** Rights are balanced by our duties to God, our families and our community.

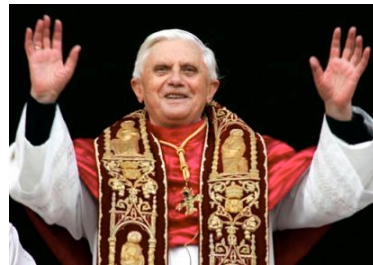


Pope Paul VI

**Solidarity:** We are our brothers' and sisters' keepers – across all walks of life and world-wide. It means respecting the independence and supporting the progress of other groups and peoples on their own terms.

### Care for God's Creation:

Collectively, we are stewards of our whole planet – God's gift. We are called upon to exercise our God-given human intelligence and creativity to preserve the wholeness and wholesomeness of Creation for the benefit of all.



B. John XXIII

**Option for the Poor and Vulnerable:** Those who, for any reasons, are poor and powerless must not be left behind; their rights must be protected.

**Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers:** The economy must serve the community. Work is a way of taking part in God's creation. All have the right to perform productive work, organise, earn decent wages, and own private property.



Pope Leo XIII



Photo: Wen Yan

The Justice, Development and Peace Committee of Blessed John XXIII Parish invites you to stand up for social justice.

As a member of our Committee, you can lend your name and your voice to an organisation that is a leader in international development. You would also be supporting the vision of the Canadian Catholic bishops and the global work of development based on justice and peace for all God's people.

Visit the Development & Peace website: [www.devp.org](http://www.devp.org) and the Blessed John XXIII Justice, Development & Peace Committee website: [www.johnxxiii.ca/Groups/Detail/D&P.htm](http://www.johnxxiii.ca/Groups/Detail/D&P.htm)

## Development and Peace...

- is the international solidarity organisation of the Canadian Catholic Church, founded in 1967 by Canada's Catholic bishops and committed laity to increase awareness and find solutions to poverty and injustice.
- is closely networked with international Catholic development agencies, ecumenical coalitions, and social movements, including Caritas Internationalis, International Co-operation for Development and Solidarity (CIDSE), KAIROS, and the World Social Forum.
- supports projects overseas that attack the root causes of poverty, injustice and exclusion -- projects that encourage social change to help people become self-sufficient.
- promotes grass-roots organisations; alternatives to unjust economic structures; political policies that benefit the poor; and equality between women and men. Our projects help people organise themselves to build better lives.



## Why We Need Development and Peace

Given our comfortable Canadian lifestyles, we can hardly imagine how four billion of the world's people live on less than two dollars a day. Poverty, injustice, war, and environmental crisis form a vicious cycle that threatens the entire world.

The poor are God's people, the same as you and I. Jesus told us that if we help our neighbour, we would be rewarded beyond measure. Simply relieving misery in the short run, however, does little to stop the underlying conditions that make poverty continue to grow. A globalised world market, unguided by limits and values, is part of the problem, not part of the solution.

## How Development and Peace Works

The long-term fight against poverty in every dimension, and building peace, are the main Development and Peace objectives overseas. We act together with many other Canadian and foreign groups, NGOs, popular movements, and other organisations linked to the Church – which reach women, peasants, small-scale co-operatives and the urban poor. Each continental program is adjusted to the social dynamics of the particular region.

Because of the desperate need, Development and Peace also provides emergency relief and reconstruction aid to the people devastated by the recent tsunamis in South-East Asia, and to those in Haiti and other Caribbean countries hit by floods, earthquakes, and hurricanes. Also on-going are relief efforts in war-torn parts of Africa, Europe and the Middle East.

## Development and Peace membership means...

Adding your voice and lending your name to those in the Church who work for justice and peace;

- Learning more about international development issues, programs, and community activities across Canada, through our quarterly newsletter, "The Global Village Voice;"
- Putting long-standing Catholic social teaching into practice, in the light of the challenge to us from Vatican II to do just that;
- The option, if you wish, to join our parish committee in local activities to raise funds and inform Canadians about international development – or eventually even getting involved in the National Council.



“Development and Peace supports projects that have practical, immediate impact and targets funds to help the poorest people in the countries it works in. It deals with partners who have a proven track record in their home countries ... and are respected by the local authorities.... It is a well administered organisation ... at the forefront of Canadian Non-Governmental Organisations. It limit[s] administration costs to a remarkably small fraction of the amounts transferred to the Third World.”

– review by CIDA (Government of Canada)

## Blessed John XXIII Parish participates in these Development and Peace Initiatives:

- In 1999, in preparation for the Great Jubilee 2000, 635,000 Canadians supported an ecumenical campaign for the cancellation of the debt of the world's poorest countries. Of these, 76% came from Development and Peace. As a result of the 17 million signatures gathered world wide, the eight richest countries in the world, including Canada, later announced measures to lessen the debt burden of the poorer countries.
- The Development and Peace campaign to establish independent monitoring of the codes of conduct for garment manufacturers Nike and Levi-Strauss has led to heightened awareness of working conditions in developing countries.
- Our ongoing campaign about the world's water resources will now focus on ending IMF and World Bank rules that pressure aid recipient countries to privatise their water supplies.