



## Catholic Charities Social Concerns

Hello,

Thank you to each of you who attended the first Parish Social Ministry (PSM) Gathering on August 25. **What a great turnout!!** With 210 attendees, a faith-filled talk by Archbishop Thompson, and over 24 ministries representing the work of serving others, it was wonderful to see the work of the Holy Spirit as people were energized around how we are ALL called to love and serve God, and our neighbors.

Many of you asked if there would be more PSM Gatherings in the future, and if we videotaped the event. I can happily say – YES and YES! We did video tape the two main sessions which will be available soon and accompanied with PowerPoint slides. Regarding future PSM Gatherings, our goal is to host at least one main gathering a year, with different webinar talks planned throughout the year. We believe it is important to offer opportunities to come together to share our Catholic faith, learn how we can be more efficient in serving those in need, and learn from one another.

The Resources that were highlighted at the PSM Gathering are available on our Catholic Charities – [Parish Social Ministry webpage](#). You can click on the [“PSM Toolkit”](#) or [“Resources”](#) tabs to find those documents. You will also find additional resources that may be of interest to you as well.

If you remember from the Catholic Charities – Social Concerns - August newsletter, I referenced a book called *Mother Teresa of Calcutta: A Personal Portrait* by Msgr. Leo Maasburg. At the PSM Gathering, I shared a story that Msgr. Maasburg shared in his book regarding his time in Rome, Italy while staying with the Missionaries of Charity. I felt it was a story that many could relate to on one level or another. To read the short story, click [HERE](#).

Lastly, **make sure you scroll down** to learn about the Featured Social Concerns Ministry for the month of September – the [Catholic Campaign for Human Development \(CCHD\)](#). Read about the great work of CCHD and how you can get involved. I also have several resources featured this month that might interest you. And lastly, lastly, as we have just celebrated Labor Day, I also wanted to include the **USCCB Labor Day Statement**. You can read the full statement [HERE](#).

As always, thank you to each of you for all you do to show love and kindness to your neighbor, whether through acts of service or acts of prayer... Thank-you!

**Keep Scrolling down to See More!!!**

Visit our Website - Catholic Charities - Social Concerns

## Featured Social Concerns Ministry



### Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD)

The [Catholic Campaign for Human Development](#) is an instrument of the Catholic Church working to carry out the mission of Jesus Christ, "... to bring good news to the poor ... release to captives ... sight to the blind, and let the oppressed go free." (Luke 4:18)

CCHD is the official domestic anti-poverty agency of the U.S. Catholic Bishops and works to break the cycle of poverty by helping people help themselves.

The CCHD philosophy emphasizes empowerment and participation. By helping the poor to participate in the decisions and actions that affect their lives, CCHD empowers them to move beyond poverty. CCHD supports grassroots organizations as they create jobs, improve neighborhoods, train adults for employment at a living wage, keep schools safe and enriching for children, and raise leaders for the future.

CCHD also educates on poverty and its causes. This strategy of education for justice and helping people who are poor speak and act for themselves reflects the mandate of Scripture and the principles of Catholic social teaching.

CCHD provides Catholics concrete opportunities to live out love of God and neighbor in ways that express our baptismal call and continuing Eucharistic transformation.

CCHD is made possible by the support of Catholics in the United States, especially through an annual parish collection. Grants to local anti-poverty efforts are screened, awarded and monitored in partnership with local dioceses and require the approval of the diocesan bishop.

**To learn more about CCHD's Poverty Education Program  
where people can **Encounter, Learn and Act**  
around issues that affect those who live in poverty**

visit

[www.PovertyUSA.org](http://www.PovertyUSA.org)

Learn more about National CCHD Grants  
and Local CCHD Grants - click below.

[National CCHD Grants](#)

[Local CCHD Grants](#)

## FEATURED RESOURCE

# Two Feet of Love in Action



Catholic disciples on mission are called to put Two Feet of Love in Action! This foundational tool describes two distinct, but complementary, ways we can put the Gospel in action in response to God's love: social justice (addressing systemic, root causes of problems that affect many people) and charitable works (short-term, emergency assistance for individuals).

The Two Feet of Love in Action provides two 90 minute sessions that are geared either for Adults or Teens to help participants learn "Two distant but complementary ways we can respond to the call to put love in action." Each session includes a Facilitator's Guide with prayers and activities.

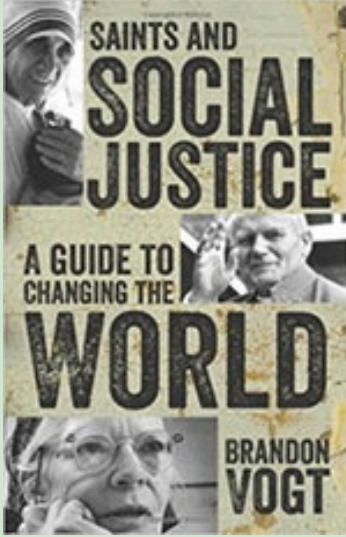
[Two Feet of Love in Action Facilitators Guide](#)

[Two Feet of Love in Action Facilitators Guide for Teens.](#)

## Spiritual Formation Resources

**Saints and Social Justice: A Guide to  
Changing the World  
by Brandon Vogt**

Saints and Social Justice: A Guide to Changing the World (Our Sunday Visitor, 2014) uses the seven major themes of Catholic social teaching, as defined by the U.S. bishops, and for each theme highlights two saints who especially embodied it. The result is a book packed with stories, from those saints



and others in the sidebars, of heroes putting these teachings into action. My hope is that it imitates stained glass windows throughout the world, using the saints as conduits of light, allowing these brilliant social teachings to shine through them with new vividness, splendor, and truth.

## Spiritual Formation Resource from August - Back by Popular Demand

### **Sacraments and Social Mission: Living the Gospel, Being Disciples**

"This guide is for priests and lay ministers, teachers and students, adults and young people, and those who are preparing for the sacraments. It is for call Catholics who seek to better understand the connections between the celebration of the sacraments and our social mission as followers of Jesus and the members of the Body of Christ."

Each Sacrament is broken down into a two page handout with reflection questions listed at the bottom. Download the document [Here](#).



## **Prayer for the Journey**

### **Catholic Charities Common Prayer**

Lord Jesus,

Open our eyes that we may see You in all our sisters and brothers.  
Open our minds that we may understand their hopes and dreams, their sorrows and pain, their longing for You. Open our hearts to give generously of ourselves. Grant us wisdom to respond effectively to the needs of Your people with grace and compassion. Give us the courage to speak Your words of life, peace, love, mercy, and human solidarity. Bless the people whom we serve, and strengthen the staff and volunteers who reach out to them every day in  
Your spirit of Charity.

Amen.

# Ministries of Catholic Charities Social Concerns

## What is Social Concerns?

Social Concerns encourages the Community to grow in a deeper understanding of Catholic Social Teaching by providing resources and strategies for effective action in parishes, schools and surrounding communities. Most importantly, it calls us to a deeper understanding in living out the Two Greatest Commandments, which is to Love God and to Love our Neighbors, both locally and globally."

Below are the Ministries that fall under Catholic Charities - Social Concerns.



## Love Your Neighbor



Share the Journey  
#sharejourney



## FROM OUR FRIENDS

Archdiocese of Indianapolis - General



ARCHDIOCESE  
OF INDIANAPOLIS  
*The Church in Central and Southern Indiana*

A Holy Hour for Prayer, Penance and Healing with Archbishop Charles Thompson will be held at 11:00 a.m. at **Saints Peter and Paul Cathedral** on **Saturday, September 15, 2018** (Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows).



The archbishop will gather in solidarity to pray for victims of sexual abuse and their families and to acknowledge the pain caused by the failure of the Church in the past.

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**The 3rd Annual Archdiocesan Morning with Mary**  
**Oct. 13th - 9am to 12pm.**  
Learn More [Here](#).

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**Office of Intercultural Ministry**

## **Studying Black Catholics: Testing My Patience, Faith and Community.**

**Speaker: Dr. Darren Davis**  
**When: Thursday, September 27th**  
**Where: Holy Angels Catholic Church**

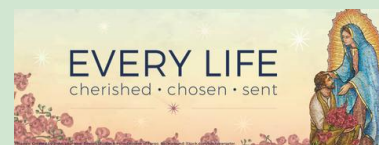
Based on his book, *Perseverance in the Parish? Religious Attitudes From A Black Catholic Perspective*, Dr. Davis will highlight the important findings and examine the challenges involved in researching and writing about Black Catholics.

For more information - Click [HERE](#).

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**Office of Human Life and Dignity**

## **October 7, 2018 - Annual Respect Life Sunday Mass**



For More Information - Click [Here](#).

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**Maryknoll Lay Missioners**



Do you feel called to join missioners around the world living out their call to be missionary disciples?

Learn about opportunities to serve in Haiti, Cambodia, Kenya, or many other countries with Maryknoll Lay Missioners in their upcoming webinar.  
For More Information - Click [HERE](#).

Catholic Charities - Social Concerns | Theresa Chamblee  
317-236-1404 | fax 317-261-3375 | [Tchamblee@archindy.org](mailto:Tchamblee@archindy.org) [www.Archindy.org/socialconcerns](http://www.Archindy.org/socialconcerns)



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*Providing Help. Creating Hope. Serving All.*