

Senior Summer Article and Reflection Questions:

Catholic Social Teaching: How Catholics View Social Justice Issues

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Reflection Questions:

1. How do injustices related to class, gender, race, or legal status manifest in both local and global contexts, and what are the root causes behind them?
2. How can Catholic Social Teaching guide our understanding of justice as not merely legal fairness but a deeper commitment to human dignity and the common good?
3. In what ways does the Church's social mission — the "World" aspect of the three W's (Word, Worship, World) — call us to act in response to injustice?
4. Pope Benedict XVI speaks of "charity in truth" as the core of Catholic Social Teaching. How can this principle influence modern efforts to promote social justice in a globalized society?
5. How does recognizing every person as created in the image of God shape our response to systemic injustices, especially against marginalized groups like the poor, the disabled, or the undocumented?
6. What role can interdisciplinary approaches (e.g., sociology, political science, theology) play in forming a holistic response to injustice in society?
7. How can justice work be informed and enriched by our participation in the sacraments and prayer life of the Church?
8. What does it mean to view justice as a "communal and relational" value, and how should that affect our daily choices, relationships, and political participation?
9. Catholic Social Teaching emphasizes a preferential option for the poor. How should this principle influence public policy and our personal priorities?
10. Reflect on an injustice you've witnessed or studied. How would integrating Catholic Social