

Useful Resources In Understanding the Church's Teaching on Social Justice

Use the website of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, <http://www.usccb.org>. On the homepage, you will see a tab on the left for social justice issues. If you click on that tab, a number of specific issues will appear, including "Catholic Social Teaching."

On the Bishops' website, you would do well to locate:

Everyday Christianity: To Hunger and Thirst for Justice – A Pastoral Reflection on Lay Discipleship for Justice in a New Millennium

Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions – Reflections of the United States Catholic Bishops

Communities of Salt and Light: Reflections on the Social Mission of the Parish

For every national election, the Bishops have been putting out a statement of the principles that should guide Catholic voters as they consider for whom they should vote. The most recent guide from 2004 is: *Faithful Citizenship: A Catholic Call to Political Responsibility*. This should also be on the Bishops' website.

Ten Building Blocks of Catholic Social Teaching by William J. Byron, America Magazine for October 31, 1998 is easily available on the web.

What the Heck is 'Social Justice'? by Rose Marie Berger is on the website of Sojourners, www.sojo.net.

It is worth having an individual, or group, membership to the Education for Justice website of the Center of Concern. This website has a wealth of materials on social justice that is often put within the context of study guides and/or resources for prayer and reflection. They also offer a weekly guide to the Sunday scripture readings that often situate those texts in a concern for justice.

www.educationforjustice.org

Another rich resource for social justice materials is the website of the Office of Social Justice for the Archdiocese of St. Paul-Minneapolis – www.osjspm.org

An excellent historical overview of Catholic Social Teaching is provided by the Claretians, *The Busy Christian's Guide to Catholic Social Teaching*, <http://salt.claretianpubs.org/cstline/tline.html>

The Claretians also offer *Salt of the Earth* – The Claretians On-line resource for social justice. <http://salt.claretianpubs.org>.

Finally, if you are looking to go into a bit more depth, I strongly recommend:

What Does the Lord Require? A Bibliographical Essay on the Bible and Social Justice by John R. Donahue, S.J.

The Institute of Jesuit Sources

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You can also look up works by John Donahue on scripture and social justice. His works are uniformly good.

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