

Catholic Social Teaching

Catholic Social Teaching (CST) is rooted in Scripture and applicable to our everyday experiences. It continues to challenge and change the world.

CST inspires how SCIAF works with our supporters in Scotland and those we serve overseas. We believe that by putting the seven principles of CST into action, we are following the example set by Christ and acting in a way that God calls us.

This series of activities, adapted from a CAFOD resource, will introduce pupils to CST principles, support critical learning, encourage creative application and offer reflection in prayer.

Activity One

Direct pupils to watch the 'CST in 3 Minutes' [animation](#).

Activity Two

Challenge pupils to apply CST to real-life scenarios by completing the 'Catholic Social Teaching' [Kahoot!](#) game. The purpose of the activity is to engage in critical thinking and debate rather than elicit 'right' or 'wrong' responses.

Activity Three

Set pupils the task of connecting at least one CST principle (shared below) with popular culture. This could be a movie quote, the actions of a fictional character or song lyrics.

Example: **Stewardship of Creation** "I am the Lorax. I speak for the trees. I speak for the trees for the trees have no tongues." Dr Seuss, The Lorax

- + Dignity**
- + Solidarity**
- + Common Good**
- + Option for the Poor**
- + Peace**
- + Stewardship of Creation**
- + Dignity of Work**
- + Participation**

Activity Four

Reflect in prayer on Catholic Social Teaching by using the provided bidding prayers.

CST Bidding Prayers

Leader: Dear Lord, we pray for those who cry out for justice and peace around the world. Move our hearts and the hearts of those with the ability to act so that Catholic Social Teaching may come alive and transform our communities.

Prayer 1: For Peace We pray for the peacemakers around the world who are working tirelessly to heal our brokenness and mend the hearts of many who have been injured. May our lives be transformed by the healing peace that comes with forgiveness and reconciliation. **Lord Hear Us**

Prayer 2: For an Option for the Poor We pray for the poor, that they may be shown preference and care by leaders, both big and small. May we start to repay the immense debt we owe to those who go without by restructuring our lives to create a bigger space for them at our tables. **Lord Hear Us**

Prayer 3: For Participation We pray that more decisions are made by and for those who will be most affected by their outcomes. We especially pray that the voices of those who have too often been excluded, forgotten or silenced are heard. May we rebalance our world so that everyone has an equal right to participate and express their opinions. **Lord Hear Us**

Prayer 4: For Dignity of Work We pray that everyone may have fair and equal access to achieving economic stability in life, that all workers be treated with respect and that each of us are paid a fair wage. **Lord Hear Us**

Prayer 5: For Human Dignity We pray for a world where all of us are treated with dignity and the precious gift of life is protected and nurtured. May society come to realize that each one of us is deserving of a life filled with peace, joy, love and comfort from birth until death. **Lord Hear Us**

Prayer 6: For Solidarity We pray that we may imitate Jesus and stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers who have been pushed to the margins. May we too reach out with compassion to those who the world has cast aside and offer them comfort and support. **Lord Hear Us**

Prayer 7: For Stewardship of Creation We pray that we may see God in all of creation and become better stewards of our earthly home. May we work to protect and cultivate what God has given to us and end the practices that exploit and destroy it, robbing future generations of a home. **Lord Hear Us**

Prayer 8: For the Common Good We pray for our communities, that we may we come together as one to promote the greater good which God has planned for the world. Show us the path to living in true harmony with one another so that we may bring about your kingdom on Earth. **Lord Hear Us**