

**PARISH SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE
CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING**

**OUR PARISHES' INVOLVEMENT BY PARTICIPATION IN DISCIPLESHIP
FROM OUR RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CHILDREN / YOUTH**

"Call to Family, Community, and Participation"



"For it is in the giving
that we receive."



No community is more central than the family; it is the basic cell of our society and the Domestic Church. It is where we learn how to actively live out our Christian faith and values. Each of us has the Christian duty and responsibility to contribute good works to the communities in society. The Church and governmental institutions generally employ instruments to protect the life, dignity, and rights of the human person. However, when basic human needs are not being met by governmental agencies, then people are called to work together to meet those needs.

Catholic Social Teachings remind us that an important dimension of the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the respect, dignity and assistance that are given to the poor and marginalized within society, with whom Jesus Christ intimately identified himself.

"It is not possible to love one's neighbor as oneself and to persevere in this conduct without the firm and constant determination to work for the good of all people and of each person, because we are all really responsible for everyone." (Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church)

Therefore, in promoting our Christian discipleship of the virtues of charity and stewardship, beginning September 1, 2014, the St. Charles Borromeo and St. Catherine of Siena Parishes' children and youth Religious Education Program participants will be asked to participate in frequent collections of canned and non-perishable items for donation to local food banks.

Facilitating and teaching the imperative for such charitable donations to those in most need is a vital part of our Christian stewardship of God's gifts. Such faith formation put-into-action evangelizes Christ's Preferential Option for the Poor, in two ways: it assists local food banks and creates a learned, personal response to help those in need in our neighboring communities.

These voluntary food donations may be: (a) Deposited before the Mass or (b) Brought forward during the Mass offertory/collection process and placed in the designated wicker basket outside of the sanctuary areas (in front of the choirs).