



## **Ten Building Blocks of Catholic Social Justice Teachings (as circulated by Catholic Charities of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Toronto)**

Human Dignity	Every person is worthy of respect regardless of race, religion, age...it is not what you do that calls for respect. It is simply that you are.
Respect for Human Life	Human life at every stage of development and decline is precious and worthy of protection and respect.
Association	The person is sacred and social. By association with family, community and other institutions, human persons find fulfillment.
Participation	Persons have the right and duty to participate in society and contribute to the common good. The dignity of work is to be protected.
Preferential Protection For the Poor and Vulnerable	In a society marred by divisions between rich and poor, our tradition instructs us to put the needs of the vulnerable first.
Solidarity	Loving our neighbour has global dimensions in an interdependent world. The common good is to be protected.
Stewardship	We have a moral responsibility for the environment. As stewards we are not owners but must use wisely its gifts, resources and talents.
Subsidiary	No higher level of organization should decide for those who are closer to the problem.
Human Equality	Social or cultural discrimination are not compatible with God's design.
The Common Good	The common good is understood as the social conditions that allow people to reach their full human potential. This is necessary at the international level as well.