



Catholic Social Teaching #6 The Poor and Vulnerable

***(Start with reviewing the previous meeting's challenge or discuss prior to sharing this week's challenge.)**

Let's Begin: Think about how the challenge went for the last session. What went well? What was difficult?

Opening Prayer:

Begin with a brief moment of silence shaking off any and all distractions or difficulties of the day and remembering that God is always with us.

Read: **Matthew 25:34-40**

After the reading, conclude with this prayer:

Heavenly Lord, You tell us to feed the hungry and clothe the naked, to care and visit the ill and those in prison. Open our eyes to the needs of others and grow in us a desire to obey Your words. Create in us a great compassion for the most vulnerable in our society and the world. We ask this in Your name, Jesus. Amen.

Reflection or Discussion Question:

1. Why do you think God asks us to help the vulnerable? Who are the “vulnerable, poor, or forgotten” in your life?

YouTube Video: Francis Week #3: Concern for the Marginalized (2:57 min) -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ANV22ummz98>

Reflection or Discussion Questions:

2. It can be difficult to focus on the harshness of reality. What are ways that you turn to comfort, entertainment, or distractions to ignore them?
3. The poor and marginalized are the face of God. What does this mean to you? In what ways is this true?
4. Who are the poor and marginalized in your community? How do you feel your community treats or supports these people? What do you feel are some of the larger issues at work that cause poverty in your community?
5. Have you witnessed any ways in which God has come to the rescue of the vulnerable or forgotten?
6. What happens to us or society when we refuse to pick up our crosses and defend, relieve, or liberate the poor?
7. How does Jesus' own poverty, and the scripture passage (Mt 25:34-40) challenge you to join in solidarity with the marginalized?
8. Have you ever reflected on how you personally respond or should respond to the marginalized before tonight? Are there any ways in which you feel you could get involved with a ministry or help the poor, vulnerable, or forgotten?

Session Challenges: {Choose one or both}

- Do some research on various organizations or causes that help the vulnerable in your community and see if there are ways that you can get involved.
- Consider if there is anyone in your life that is especially lonely and forgotten. Reach out to them and let them know you care.

Closing Prayer: (Leaders: We recommended offering time during the closing prayer for participants to offer personal intentions.) Please pray this prayer together.

Download the **Call Us Forth Prayer** here: <https://www.crs.org/resource-center/call-us-forth>

Additional Information: To learn more about the CARES services in Farmington Hills [click here](#).