



Catholic Social Teaching #7 Dignity of Work and The Rights of Workers

***{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 20:1-14](#)

After the reading, conclude with this prayer:

Just God, help us to use our power as consumers and voters to ensure that the dignity of workers is respected. May we urge business owners and policymakers to place the dignity of the human person at the center of economic decisions. Amen.

Reflection or Discussion Question:

1. What resonates with you from this reading? How does this relate to living with one another and faith?

YouTube Video: CST 101|The Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers (3:52 min) -

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=txH7G1RkD8I>

Reflection or Discussion Questions:

2. Have you ever thought of work as a gift from God? In what way is it a gift?
3. Do you think/feel that every person has a right to decent work? Why or why not?
4. How have you seen the dignity of work either violated or protected?
5. Have you personally seen the rights of workers either violated or protected? On the flip side, have you witnessed an employee taking advantage of their employer or not doing their job?
6. What do you feel is the difference between work existing for people versus people existing to work?
7. In what ways can our purchasing choices impact whether others rights are violated or protected?
8. What do you think is the church's responsibility of helping others get work?

Session Challenges: {Choose one or both}

- This week be sure to let someone in customer service who has helped you know how appreciated they are.
- Prayerfully consider how you can get involved to support those seeking work and/or support their rights at work.

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

Prayer for Work – Can be downloaded here: <https://www.usccb.org/prayers/prayer-work>

Creator God, thank you for providing us with the gift to share our talents. Provide our community, our nation, and our world the fortitude to provide work for all that is decent and fair. Make us faithful stewards of your creation to enhance the human dignity of our global family. We ask this in the name of Jesus, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen