

SOCIAL MINISTRY LINKS

Catholic Charities <http://www.dor.org/charities/SocialPolicyResearch/sprhome.html>

Standing up for what's right, especially when it comes to the underserved and poor in our community, is something we care deeply about. Our services teach parishioners, staff, and clients to use their voice, to get involved, to help them actively transform their own lives and communities. Through advocacy, we focus on changing unjust systems that keep people from realizing their full potential. Through training, we help parishioners understand and act on Catholic Social Teaching.

Catholic Social Teaching <http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/projects/socialteaching/excerpt.shtml>

The Church's social teaching is a rich treasure of wisdom about building a just society and living lives of holiness amidst the challenges of modern society. Modern Catholic social teaching has been articulated through a tradition of papal, conciliar, and episcopal documents. The depth and richness of this tradition can be understood best through a direct reading of these documents. In these brief reflections, we highlight several of the key themes that are at the heart of our Catholic social tradition.

Downtown Community Forum <http://www.dcfrochester.org/about.asp#Mission>

Since 1985, the Downtown Community Forum (DCF) has contributed to the development of a better-informed citizenry by showcasing the diversity of opinion within the Rochester community. DCF gatherings provide an opportunity to explore important issues and exchange ideas in an ecumenical, nonpartisan, democratic, and value-centered setting.

JustFaith Ministries <http://www.justfaith.org/>

Our Christian faith and Biblical tradition extend an extraordinary invitation to each of us and our faith communities to become agents of God's compassion and healing in a wounded world. The Good News of Christ is both a comfort and a promise for the poor and, at the same time, a call to those of us who are not poor to be linked with God's vision of justice and reconciliation. The Church's history shines with examples of the courage and commitment of those who dedicated themselves to the needs of their most desperate sisters and brothers.

Kiva <http://www.kiva.org/app.php?page=home>

Kiva is a non-profit organization that allows you to lend as little as \$25 to a specific low-income entrepreneur in the developing world. You choose who to lend to - whether a baker in Afghanistan, a goat herder in Uganda, a farmer in Peru, a restaurateur in Cambodia, or a tailor in Iraq - and as they repay their loan, you get your money back. It's a powerful and sustainable way to empower someone right now to lift themselves out of poverty. Check it out!

Operation Rice Bowl <http://orb.crs.org/about/index.cfm>

Operation Rice Bowl, the official Lenten Program of Catholic Relief Services, began in 1975 in the Diocese of Allentown, PA as a response to the drought in the African Sahel. For 33 years, Operation Rice Bowl has called participants to pray with their families and faith communities; fast in solidarity with those who hunger; learn about our global community and the challenges of poverty overseas, and give sacrificial contributions to those in need.

RAIHN http://www.coatclip.com/raihn/raihn_org.html#Helping

The Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network, a non-profit organization of faith communities, assists homeless families achieve sustainable independence by supporting them with resources of food, shelter, personalized case management and a broad network of caring volunteers.

PUBLICATIONS

 <p>http://www.amazon.com/Catholic-Social-Thought-Documentary-Heritage/dp/0883447878/ref=sip_rech_dp_7/103-6403216-3699014</p>	<p>Catholic Social Thought: The Documentary Heritage David J. O'Brien and Thomas A. Shannon <i>Catholic Social Thought</i> is indispensable for scholars and students, religious and lay people, and everyone concerned with the official statements of the Catholic Church on social issues and world peace.</p>
 <p>http://www.amazon.com/Doing-Faithjustice-Introduction-Catholic-Thought/dp/0809142279/ref=pd_bbs_sr_1/103-6403216-3699014?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1208797666&sr=1-1</p>	<p>Doing Faithjustice: An Introduction to Catholic Social Thought Fred Kammer, S.J. In this revised edition of a longtime bestseller, lawyer, activist and Jesuit priest Fred Kammer ushers Catholics into the twenty-first century as he confronts the challenge of human poverty and injustice in the context of our consumer-driven, economically fragile world.</p>
 <p>http://www.amazon.com/Images-Change-Rosemary-Luling-Haughton/dp/0809104903/ref=sr_1_2/002-0650628-5680009?ie=UTF8&s=books&qid=1208798522&sr=1-2</p>	<p>Images for Change: The Transformation of Society Rosemary Luling Haughton This new book hinges on the clever analogy of a house. The author says that in order to rebuild a house, we need to understand its structure. She asks such questions as: On what foundations does this structure stand? What things or people are hidden away under the floorboards? Who is allowed upstairs and who is left downstairs?</p>