

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Our social teaching revolves around seven key words that can be remembered by the first letter of the saying:

“PLEASE SEND ROUND PIZZA WITH SQUARE CORNERS” *

***Bishop Kenneth Untener**

PERSON

Each person is a “child of God,” and has a dignity they can never lose. People are always more important than things.

SOCIAL

Human beings are made to connect with other people. One of the most basic connections is family. There is a wider connection called “society,” in which all have a right and responsibility to participate.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Every person has the right to life-which includes food, shelter, health care, education and employment-and every person has a responsibility to support these rights for others.

POOR

The poor have a special claim because they are not sharing in the goods that God intended for all people. A basic measure of everything we do is: How will this affect or involve the poor?

WORK

Work is not a “necessary evil” but a participation in God’s “work” in creating and sustaining the cosmos. The worker is to be respected and has a right to a wage adequate to support a family.

SOLIDARITY

We belong to one human family and are our sisters’ and brothers’ keepers wherever they live.

CREATION

The story of creation says that God looked at everything and saw that it was good. All creation belongs to God and we must be good stewards of what God has made.

