

Call to Family, Community, and Participation and Subsidiarity

Catholic Social Teaching Working Group



GOAL: The Catholic Women's League of Canada addresses and supports Catholic social teaching through advocacy.

STRATEGY: Empower members by providing educational opportunities to learn more about Catholic social teaching.



Table of Contents

Call to Family, Community, and Participation	2	Subsidiarity.....	13
Call to Family.....	3	Articles, Books and Booklets.....	13
Apps and Podcasts	3	Church Documents and Teachings	14
Articles, Books and Booklets.....	3	Film and Video	15
Catholic Publishers and Booksellers.....	5	Papal Documents	16
Film and Video	5	Podcasts.....	17
Organizations	6	Quotes.....	17
Papal Documents	7	Scripture Quotes	18
Prayers and Prayer Resources.....	8	Websites.....	18
Websites.....	9	Prophets Among Us	19
Other Resources.....	10		
Call to Community and Participation.....	10		
Articles and Newsletters	10		
Courses, Programs and Training	11		
Organizations	11		
Papal Documents	12		
Prayers and Prayer Resources.....	12		
Websites.....	12		

Call to Family, Community, and Participation



“Families transform the world and history,” Pope Francis stated in his address to bishops taking part in the 2015 World Meeting of Families. Most people are born into, live in and participate in family. People learn to live in a community by first living in a family. They learn how to participate in the community and the larger world through examples from intimate family life.

“The family is the fundamental locus of the covenant between the Church and God’s creation, with that creation which God blessed on the last day with a family. Without the family, not even the Church would exist. Nor could she be what she is called to be, namely ‘a sign and instrument of communion with God and of the unity of the entire human race.’”

The key Catholic social teaching (CST) principle of family, community and participation is woven almost seamlessly throughout the church’s teachings. Catholics are the family of God—community—and, as such, are impelled throughout their lives to participate as dynamic, engaged human beings.

“The family is our ally, our window to the world; the family is the proof of an irrevocable blessing of God destined for all the children who in every age are born into this difficult yet beautiful creation which God has asked us to serve!”

It is hoped that this resource will be a source of rich and fertile material for the League and its members.

As the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops wrote in its 1986 pastoral letter on Catholic social teaching and the economy, “For the laity holiness is achieved in the midst of the world, in family, in community, in friendships, in work, in leisure, in citizenship.”

Call to Family

“For believers, the family, the cell of communion on which society is founded, resembles a ‘domestic church in miniature’ called to reveal God’s love to the world” (Pope Benedict XVI).

Apps and Podcasts

Title	Producer/Availability	Information
Pray2gether (app)	Subsplash Inc. catholicfamilyfaith.org/praying.html Download (no charge) Apple iOS: apps.apple.com/us/app/pray-2gether/id1167789317 Google Play: play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.subsplashconsulting.s_WXVNTR&hl=en_US	An app that families may use to read scripture and join in prayer together.
Catholic Exchange (podcast)	catholicexchange.com/podcast Subscribe on Google Podcasts, RSS Feed or download.	A podcast discussing various Catholic themes, such as, “Share Marion Devotions with Your Children”, “How Families can Prepare for Spiritual Warfare” and “How Can Catholics Keep Youth in Church?”

Articles, Books and Booklets

Author, Title, Year	Publisher and Availability	Synopsis
Defelice, J. <i>The Effects of Light on the Menstrual Cycle: Also Infertility—Clinical Observations.</i>	onemoresoul.com/catalog/effects-of-light-on-the-menstrual-cycle-and-fertility-p316.html \$5.00	This 30-page booklet delves into reproductive issues that a woman’s sleep cycle may affect and offers potential solutions. It is designed to be used as an aid for natural family planning.
Gallagher, C. <i>Family Theology: Finding God in Very Human Relationships.</i> 2012.	Morehouse Publishing en.novalis.ca/products/family-theology?_pos=15&_sid=85e8a2a5e&_ss=r \$22.95 ISBN: 9780819224378	A blend of faith stories, behavioural therapy and insights from cognitive scientists show how God blesses every family. 144 pages.

Author, Title, Year	Publisher and Availability	Synopsis
Kasper, W. <i>The Gospel of the Family</i> . 2014.	Paulist Press en.novalis.ca/products/the-gospel-of-the-family?pos=5&_sid=3cbfcbeab&_ss=r \$13.50 ISBN: 9780809149087	Theologian Cardinal Walter Kasper’s address on the “Gospel of the Family”. 64 pages.
Meuser, B. ed. <i>Docat: Catholic Social Teaching for Youth</i> . 2016.	Ignatius Press amazon.ca/Docat-Catholic-Social-Teaching-Youth/dp/1621640493 \$26.06 ISBN: 9781621640493	DOCAT, written for youth, outlines the church’s teachings on social justice. 320 pages.
Tarasar, C., ed. <i>Family Life: Christian Families in Today’s World</i> . 1995.	Orthodox Church in America en.novalis.ca/products/family-life?_pos=1&_sid=3cbfcbeab&_ss=r \$15.95 ISBN: 9780866420556	This book is a contemporary Christian resource for families. 98 pages.
Unknown. “Love, Sex, and Sterilization.” 2015.	United States Conference of Catholic Bishops usccb.org/committees/pro-life-activities/love-sex-and-sterilization	This article, part of a series on respect for life, offers a short discussion from a pro-life perspective.

Catholic Publishers and Booksellers

Name	Link	Website
Novalis Canada (Canadian based)	800-1 Eglinton Ave. E Toronto, Ontario M4P 3A1 Telephone: (800)-387-7164 Email: books@novalis.ca or resources@novalis.ca	en.novalis.ca/
Sunrise Marian Distribution (Canadian based)	703 East Main St Welland, Ontario L3B 3Y5 Telephone: (800) 884-1171 Email: sales@sunrisemarian.ca	sunrisemarian.com/
The Catholic Company (California based)	615 E. Westinghouse Blvd. Charlotte, North Carolina 28273 Telephone: (866) 522-8465	catholiccompany.com/

Film and Video

Title, Year, Length	Producer, Director, Website	Description
<i>Catholic Social Teaching—Theme 2: The Call to Family and Community Participation.</i> 2020. 00:07:56 minutes	Producer: Church of Our Lady of Loretto – Saint Mary’s youtube.com/watch?v=zCTm-F4DTe8&list=PLk344Ub_78n_Cpw5Res5FzJFwNySVlkPK&index=3	This video explains how the roots of community participation find their origin in the family. Healthy communities grow from healthy individuals. People grow and become healthy social beings within the framework of family. The roots of social participation and subsidiarity begin with the family.
<i>CST 101: Call to Family, Community and Participation.</i> 2015. 00:03:44 minutes	Producers: Catholic Relief Services and United States Conference of Catholic Bishops youtube.com/watch?v=giQgWakrgQs	This video briefly explains family, community and participation from the Catholic perspective—one of seven in the CST 101 video series.

Title, Year, Length	Producer, Director, Website	Description
<i>Family Love: Vocation and Path to Holiness.</i> 2022. 00:06:17 minutes	Producer: Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops Standing Committee for Family and Life youtube.com/watch?v=VoRVuQfluo8	
“Get Inspired” series	Producer: Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life YouTube Channel: youtube.com/c/DicasteryLaityFamilyLife	The Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life offers a “Get Inspired” series, with each video highlighting themes of listening and loving in family life, laity and community.

Organizations

Name	Website	Information
Missionaries of the Holy Family	msf-america.org/caring-for-your-family	Based in Rome, Missionaries of the Holy Family is a global society of religious dedicated to promotion of the Holy Family and vocations and the pastoral care of families. Special devotions, prayers for family and perpetual mass offerings are available on its website.
One More Soul	onemoresoul.com/	One More Soul formed in 1992 and officially became a not-for-profit organization (Ohio) in 1993. The organization finds, develops and distributes information on love and chastity, marriage and children, contraception and abortion, medical resources and pro-life issues. Its website features a store and links to dozens of related publications.
Saint Paul VI Institute	popepaulvi.com/	The institute promotes a culture of life guided by Catholic wisdom and teaching. Back issues of its online newsletter, <i>FertilityCare for Young Women</i> , and other educational material are available on its website.

Name	Website	Information
Serena Canada	serena.ca/ Resource page: serena.ca/resources/	Serena Canada teaches and supports the symptothermal method of natural family planning.
Teams of Our Lady—Region Canada	teamsfourlady.ca/about-us/ Resource page: teamsfourlady.ca/publications-documents/	Teams of Our Lady is an international movement launched in 1939 in Paris, France. The organization helps small regional clusters to meet and enrich married couples' spiritual life and the sacramental richness of married life.

Papal Documents

Title and Link	Author, Year Published	Description
<i>Amoris Laetitia</i> (On Love in the Family) vatican.va/content/dam/francesco/pdf/apost_exhortations/documents/papa-francesco_esortazione-ap_20160319_amoris-laetitia_en.pdf	Pope Francis, 2016	Pope Francis' apostolic exhortation on love in the family is a proclamation of the "good news of the family."
Charter of The Rights of the Family vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_councils/family/documents/rc_pc_family_doc_19831022_family-rights_en.html	1983	A summary of the rights of the family according to the church, broken into 12 articles, e.g. Article 1 states, "All persons have the right to the free choice of their state of life and thus to marry and establish a family or to remain single."
<i>Familiaris Consortio</i> (On the Role of the Christian Family in the Modern World) vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost_exhortations/documents/hf_jp-ii_exh_19811122_familiaris-consortio.html	Pope John Paul II, 1981	This apostolic exhortation on the role of the Christian family in the modern world is a fruit of the 1980 synod of bishops. It further develops the human values of marriage and family as a vocation of love and commitment to service.

Title and Link	Author, Year Published	Description
Letter to the Bishops of the Catholic Church on the Collaboration of Men and Women in the Church and in the World vatican.va/roman_curia/congregations/cfaith/documents/rc_con_cfaith_doc_20040731_collaboration_en.html	Pope John Paul II, 2004	This letter to the bishops addresses the male and female dimensions of humanity and the role, value and importance of feminine values and sensitivities in the life of the church.
Letter to Women vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/letters/1995/documents/hf_jp-ii LET_29061995_women.html	Pope John Paul II, 1995	A letter addressed to women on the eve of the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, highlighting their gifts, dignity, rights and unique worth, and encouraging full social, political and economic integration for all women.
<i>Lumen Gentium</i> (Constitution of the Church) vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_const_19641121_lumen-gentium_en.html	Pope Paul VI, 1964	This dogmatic constitution calls the laity, faithful and the church's magisterium to full participation in the universal mission of the church.
The Vocation and Mission of the Family in the Church and in the Contemporary World: The Final Report vatican.va/roman_curia/synod/documents/rc_synod_doc_20151026_relazione-finale-xiv-assemblea_en.html	Synod of Bishops, 2015	This report is the culmination of a two-year synod on the challenges, mission, virtue and value of the family in the church and the contemporary world.

Prayers and Prayer Resources

Title/Resource	Author, Website
Family Prayers Jesuit Research.org, The Center for Mission and Identity at Xavier University, Ohio	xavier.edu/jesuitresource/online-resources/prayer-index/family-prayers
Prayer for Families Catholic-link.org	Author: Saint John Paul II catholic-link.org/quotes/jpiis-prayer-for-families/

Title/Resource	Author, Website
Prayer for Family—Prayer for My Family Catholic Daily Readings	catholicreadings.org/prayer-for-family-prayer-for-my-family/
Prayer for the Family Catholic.org	catholic.org/prayers/prayer.php?p=66
Prayer to the Holy Family	Author: Pope Francis vatican.va/roman_curia/synod/documents/rc_synod_doc_20151026_relazione-finale-xiv-assemblea_en.html#Prayer_to_the_Holy_Family
Strong Catholic Family Faith: Prayer Resources	catholicfamilyfaith.org/praying.html

Websites

Name	Link	Information
Call to Family, Community & Participation Strong Catholic Family Faith Project	catholicfamilyfaith.org/call-to-family-community-and-participation.html	This resource introduces family, community and participation with short video clips and resource links.
Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life	laityfamilylife.va/content/laityfamilylife/en.html	The official source of information regarding laity, family and life from the Holy See.

Other Resources

Resource	Supplier and Link	Description
Family Table Talk Placemats	Novalis Canada, \$9.50 en.novalis.ca/products/family-table-talk-placemats?_pos=73&_sid=63ecd5bb7&_ss=r	A set of four seasonal/liturgical-themed placemats complete with QR (quick response) code links to online Table Talk resources.

Call to Community and Participation

Articles and Newsletters

Author, Title, Year	Publisher and Availability	Synopsis
Cardijn, J. "The Essential and Irreplaceable Apostolate Proper to Lay People." 1962.	Joseph Cardijn Digital Library josephcardijn.com/en/home	Cardinal Joseph Cardijn asserted that the faithful could not remain on the sidelines in the face of human misery.
<i>Catholic Exchange</i> Free subscription service	PO Box 5284 Manchester, New Hampshire 03108 Email (editor): mlichens@sophiainstitute.com catholicexchange.com	A Catholic publication that seeks to enrich Christians in their faith and spiritual practice.

Courses, Programs and Training

Institute	Course Title	Website	Information
Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) 2500 Don Reid Dr. Ottawa, Ontario K1H 2J2	For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission	ccc.ca/evangelization-catechesis-catholic-education/video-resources/for-a-synodal-church-communion-participation-and-mission/	The CCCB offers three recorded sessions of “For a Synodal Church.” Each session includes a downloadable reflection guide.
St. Mary’s University Twickenham, London United Kingdom Email: catholicalthought@stmarys.ac.uk	Catholic Social Thought	catholicalthought.org.uk/online-course/	Several short units on Catholic social teaching are offered in this online course.
Tamarack Institute Email: courses@tamarackcommunity.ca	Foundations of Community Engagement	events.tamarackcommunity.ca/foundations-community-engagement-online-course-lisa-attygalle?hsCtaTracking=b851f3bb-810c-4dca-a2ce-b0601c98a0f9%7Cd8a13208-9525-4dfo-b37e-f43e6dfb4aee	Six online self-directed learning sessions with several group coaching sessions available. Fee: \$249.00 per person. A discount is offered for group registrations of three people or more.

Organizations

Name	Website	Information
It Starts Right Now	itstartsrightnow.ca/	A national action platform to support pro-life political candidates and pro-life bills across Canada.

Papal Documents

Title and Link	Author, Year Published	Description
<i>Apostolicam Actuositatem</i> (Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity) vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_decree_19651118_apostolicam-actuositatem_en.html	Pope Paul VI, 1965	This decree calls the laity to exercise its apostolate in the modern world through ministry and the sacraments to practice charity with humility for the salvation of all. “Catholic action” endorsed and explained.
<i>Gaudium et Spes</i> (On the Church in the Modern World), Chapter II: The Community of Mankind vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_cons_19651207_gaudium-et-spes_en.html	Pope Paul VI, 1965	This chapter in <i>Gaudium et Spes</i> focuses on community and the deep relationships people require with one another.
<i>Gaudium et Spes</i> , Chapter IV: The Role of the Church in the Modern World vatican.va/archive/hist_councils/ii_vatican_council/documents/vat-ii_cons_19651207_gaudium-et-spes_en.html	Pope Paul VI, 1965	This chapter in <i>Gaudium et Spes</i> develops the reasoning for how the church exists and how Catholics participate, live and act in the world.

Prayers and Prayer Resources

Title/Resource	Author, Website	Information
<i>Adsumus Sancte Spiritus</i> prayer (We Stand Before You, Holy Spirit)	St. Isidore (attributed to) synod.va/en/resources/the-adsumus-prayer.html	The prayer historically invoked at the start of each synod, assembly and church gathering for centuries and the prayer used for the 2021-2023 Synod on Synodality.

Websites

Name	Link	Information
100 Best Catholic Blogs and Websites (Feedspot)	blog.feedspot.com/catholic_blogs/	A list of the top 100 Catholic blogs, including a brief synopsis, a link to each blog and statistics on followers.

Subsidiarity

“A society that honours the principle of subsidiarity liberates people from a sense of despondency and hopelessness, granting them the freedom to engage with one another in the spheres of commerce, politics and culture” (Pope Benedict XVI).

The *Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church* notes that, “Men and women must respond to the gift of salvation not with a partial, abstract or merely verbal acceptance, but with the whole of their lives — in every relationship that defines life... to make the liberating word of the Gospel resound in the complex worlds of production, labour, business, finance, trade, politics, law, culture, social communications, where men and women live.”

Articles, Books and Booklets

Author, Title, Year	Publisher and Availability	Synopsis
Behr, T. <i>Social Justice & Subsidiarity: Luigi Taparelli and the Origins of Modern Catholic Social Thought</i> . 2019.	The Catholic University of America Press cuapress.org/9780813231181/social-justice-and-subsidiarity/ \$75.00	Luigi Taparelli, SJ (1973-1862) was a Jesuit scholar, teacher and mentor to Pope Leo XIII. The author explores the development of Taparelli’s concepts of social justice, subsidiarity and the origins of modern Catholic social teaching.
Catholic Curriculum Corporation et al. <i>Equity and Inclusion: Through the Lens of Catholic Social Teaching—Principle of Subsidiarity</i> . 2019.	Catholic Curriculum Corporation and Ontario English Catholic Teachers’ Association catholiccurriculumcorp.org/Units/EquityandInclusion/Subsidiarity.pdf	This 44-page lesson plan on subsidiarity for Grade 11 and Grade 12 students is easily adapted for youth group and adult faith formation instruction.
Evans, A., Zimmerman, A., eds. <i>Global Perspectives on Subsidiarity</i> . 2014.	Springer amazon.ca/Global-Perspectives-Subsidiarity-lus-Gentium-ebook Kindle Edition, \$137.00	This text explores the principle of subsidiarity in developing Catholic social doctrine, European Union law and the application of subsidiarity and sovereignty on the frontiers of democracy, individual rights and globalization.
Murray, E. “The Principle of Subsidiarity as a Social and Political Principle in Catholic Social Teaching.” <i>Solidarity: The Journal of Catholic Social Thought and Secular Ethics</i> . 2013.	researchonline.nd.edu.au/solidarity/vol3/iss1/4	Analyzes the meaning and application of subsidiarity and discusses the political applications of the principle.

Author, Title, Year	Publisher and Availability	Synopsis
Pavy, E. "The Principle of Subsidiarity." 2022.	europarl.europa.eu/factsheets/en/sheet/7/the-principle-of-subsidiarity	Subsidiarity in action—a practical demonstration of the principles of proportionality and subsidiarity. This fact sheet outlines the scope, application of subsidiarity and scrutiny of the European Union when its member states require a higher level of government involvement.

Church Documents and Teachings

Catechism Paragraph	Quote
1883	"Socialization also presents dangers. Excessive intervention by the state can threaten personal freedom and initiative. The teaching of the Church has elaborated the principle of <i>subsidiarity</i> , according to which 'a community of a higher order should not interfere in the internal life of a community of a lower order, depriving the latter of its functions, but rather should support it in case of need and help to co-ordinate its activity with the activities of the rest of society, always with a view to the common good.'"
1884	"God has not willed to reserve to himself all exercise of power. He entrusts to every creature the functions it is capable of performing, according to the capacities of its own nature. This mode of governance ought to be followed in social life. The way God acts in governing the world, which bears witness to such great regard for human freedom, should inspire the wisdom of those who govern human communities. They should behave as ministers of divine providence."
1885	"The principle of subsidiarity is opposed to all forms of collectivism. It sets limits for state intervention. It aims at harmonizing the relationships between individuals and societies. It tends toward the establishment of true international order."

Film and Video

Title, Year, Length	Producer, Director, Website	Description
<p><i>Acton—Love of Neighbor.</i> 2017. 00:07:54 minutes</p>	<p>Acton Institute vimeo.com/199337517</p>	<p>All too often, charitable programs offered are unsuccessful because they are solutions imposed upon the suffering rather than programs that work together with the people to assist them in finding their own solutions.</p>
<p><i>Cardinal Reinhard Marx on Subsidiarity vs. Solidarity.</i> 2012. 00:05:44 minutes Berkley Center channel, YouTube</p>	<p>Berkley Center for Religion, Peace & World Affairs, Georgetown University youtube.com/watch?v=LRL65OTwOjY</p>	<p>Cardinal Reinhard Marx explains the responsibilities of healthy government and individuals within the framework of subsidiarity and solidarity.</p>
<p><i>Catholic Social Teaching: Subsidiarity.</i> 2020. 00:04:55 minutes</p>	<p>Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand youtube.com/watch?v=CypezkeUXDM</p>	<p>This video uses the example of community organization refugee sponsorship to examine and apply the principle of subsidiarity.</p>
<p><i>EU Policy and Implementation: Decentralization, subsidiarity and proportionality.</i> 2017. 00:06:56 minutes</p>	<p>Centre for Innovation, Leiden University youtube.com/watch?v=KrVjJ7eF2hk</p>	<p>As part of a lecture on European Union policy and implementation, Professor Bernard Steunenberg discusses the intersection of subsidiarity, proportionality and decentralization in lower and higher levels of government.</p>
<p><i>Subsidiarity: Catholic Social Teaching.</i> 2017. 00:02:48 minutes</p>	<p>The Religion Teacher Jared Dees youtube.com/watch?v=1NiRA6DL_CM</p>	<p>This video gives a straightforward explanation of the Catholic social teaching principle of subsidiarity.</p>

Papal Documents

Title and Link	Author, Year Published	Description
<p>Address to the Participants in the 14th Session of the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences</p> <p>vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/speeches/2008/may/documents/hf_ben-xvi_spe_20080503_social-sciences.html</p>	<p>Pope Benedict XVI, 2008</p>	<p>Pope Benedict XVI examines <i>Pursuing the Common Good: How Solidarity and Subsidiarity Can Work Together</i>—the theme of the 14th plenary session.</p>
<p><i>Caritas in Veritate</i> (Integral Human Development in Charity and Truth)</p> <p>vatican.va/content/benedict-xvi/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_ben-xvi_enc_20090629_caritas-in-veritate.html</p>	<p>Pope Benedict XVI, 2009</p>	<p>Pope Benedict XVI suggests fraternal cooperation between believers and non-believers is an important component of subsidiarity, revealed particularly well via the autonomy of intermediate bodies.</p>
<p><i>Centesimus Annus</i> (On the Hundredth Anniversary of <i>Rerum Novarum</i>)</p> <p>vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_jp-ii_enc_01051991_centesimus-annus.html</p>	<p>Pope John Paul II, 1991</p>	<p>On the 100th anniversary of <i>Rerum Novarum</i>, Pope John Paul II writes that the welfare state is harmful to subsidiarity because of bureaucratic excesses.</p>
<p><i>Laudato Si'</i> (On Care for our Common Home)</p> <p>vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html</p>	<p>Pope Francis, 2015</p>	<p>In this encyclical on care for our common home, Pope Francis introduces the idea of humans being in solidarity with the earth, focusing especially on those marginalized by the effects of climate change and other environmental catastrophes.</p>
<p><i>Quadragesimo Anno</i> (On Reconstruction of the Social Order)</p> <p>vatican.va/content/pius-xi/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_p-xi_enc_19310515_quadragesimo-anno.html</p>	<p>Pope Pius XI, 1931</p>	<p>This encyclical further develops the principle of subsidiarity introduced in <i>Rerum Novarum</i>, written during a time of German national socialism, Soviet communism and Western European and American capitalist individualism. Pope Pius XI declares that government should play a limited role in society, only undertaking initiatives that exceed the capacity of local individuals and private groups and should be as local as possible.</p>
<p><i>Rerum Novarum</i> (On Capital and Labor)</p> <p>vatican.va/content/leo-xiii/en/encyclicals/documents/hf_l-xiii_enc_15051891_rerum-novarum.html</p>	<p>Pope Leo XIII, 1891</p>	<p>The first official encyclical on Catholic social teaching introduces the topic of subsidiarity with a focus on the dignity of the human person. This document was written in response to the struggle between communist and capitalist ideologies of its time.</p>

Podcasts

Episode Title, Year, Length	Producer/Availability	Information
“Ep. 266: Subsidiarity, Solidarity, and the Common Good.” 2022. 00:41:16 minutes	Words & Numbers Podcast gaana.com/song/ep-266-subsidiarity-solidarity-and-the-common-good	Theology professors Christopher McMann and Jason King discuss in understandable language what subsidiarity, solidarity and the common good mean. The discussion starts a 9:23 minute mark of the podcast.

Quotes

Source, Date	Quote
Pope Benedict XVI. <i>Caritas in Veritate</i> . 2009.	“Subsidiarity respects personal dignity by recognizing in the person a subject who is always capable of giving something to others” (57).
Pope Francis. <i>Laudato Si’</i> . 2015.	“Let us keep in mind the principle of subsidiarity, which grants freedom to develop the capabilities present at every level of society, while also demanding a greater sense of responsibility for the common good from those who wield greater power” (196).
Pope Pius XI. <i>Quadragesimo Anno</i> . 1931.	“... That most weighty principle, which cannot be set aside or changed, remains fixed and unshaken in social philosophy: Just as it is gravely wrong to take from individuals what they can accomplish by their own initiative and industry and give it to the community, so also it is an injustice and at the same time a grave evil and disturbance of right order to assign to a greater and higher association what lesser and subordinate organizations can do” (79).
Rudy Carrasco	“An issue or problem should be dealt with by the people who are closest to it.”

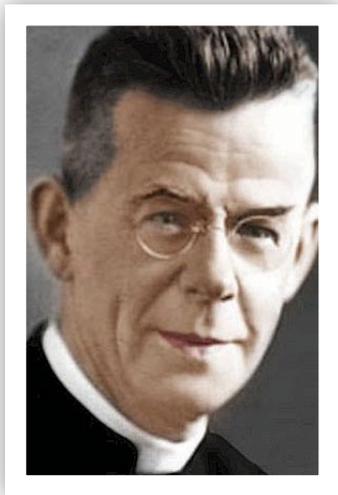
Scripture Quotes

Scripture Source	Quote
Ephesians 4:16	“... From whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.”
2 Thessalonians 3:10-13	“For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.”
1 Timothy 5:3-8	“Honour widows who are really widows. If a widow has children or grandchildren, they should first learn their religious duty to their own family and make some repayment to their parents; for this is pleasing in God’s sight. The real widow, left alone, has set her hope on God and continues in supplications and prayers night and day; but the widow who lives for pleasure is dead even while she lives. Give these commands as well, so that they may be above reproach. And whoever does not provide for relatives, and especially for family members, has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever.”

Websites

Name	Link	Information
Development and Peace— Caritas Canada	devp.org/en/ devp.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/key-principles-devp-2016.pdf	A social justice movement established in 1967 by the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops based on solidarity, subsidiarity and the preferential option for the poor.
Ignatian Solidarity Network	ignatiansolidarity.net/	A social justice movement based on the spirituality of St. Ignatius of Loyola.
Poverty Cure Initiative of the Acton Institute	povertycure.org/learn/issues/human-person/subsidiarity	

Prophets Among Us



Cardinal Joseph Leo Cardijn (1882-1967)

Joseph Leo Cardijn was a Belgian priest who dedicated his life to the working people. He was an underground activist during World War I and was imprisoned in 1916. His activism for workers traces back to 1912. In 1919, he organized the Young Trade Unionists, which became a national organization in 1924. The movement was renamed the Young Christian Workers and sanctioned by Pope Pius XI in 1925.

Cardinal Cardijn was beatified in 2014 and titled “Servant of God,” indicating the first step toward possible canonization. His writings were foundational to the development of principles of Catholic social teaching. Many of his works are accessible to readers at josephcardijn.com/en/home.

Photo of Joseph Cardijn shared by Shawky1993 creative commons.

St. Marie of the Incarnation (1599-1672)



Marie founded the first Ursuline Monastery in Quebec, now a National Historic Site of Canada, in 1642. Marie spent the remainder of her life working to educate all the women—French and native Canadian—in Quebec. Marie was a prolific writer, penning over 20,000 letters in her lifetime.

St. Marguerite Bourgeoys (1620-1700)



Marguerite established a school for Indigenous girls in Montreal. At the age of 69, she walked from Montreal to Quebec in response to the bishop’s request to establish a community of her sisters in that city. By the time she died, she was referred to as the “Mother of the Colony.” Marguerite was canonized in 1982.



Photograph of St. Titus Brandsma: Daniel Ibáñez/EWTN News

St. Titus Brandsma (1881-1942)

– Carmelite priest, journalist and professor of philosophy/theology

Titus Brandsma was named the spiritual advisor to Holland’s Catholic newspapers in the 1930s. In 1940 when Nazis invaded Holland, he continued to firmly speak out against “the new paganism” overtaking Germany, focusing mainly on the Nazi oppression of Jewish people.

In December 1941, the Nazi regime declared an edict that all Dutch newspapers were obliged to run advertisements and propaganda in support of its causes. In response, Brandsma began to personally deliver a letter from the bishops conference of the Netherlands ordering editors of more than a dozen Catholic newspapers not to print official Nazi documents.

He was arrested on January 19th and held prisoner in several different locations until being sent to the Dachau concentration camp in June. Although his health quickly deteriorated, he maintained a prayerful equilibrium. He was put to death by lethal injection as part of the Nazi medical experimentation program on July 26, 1942.

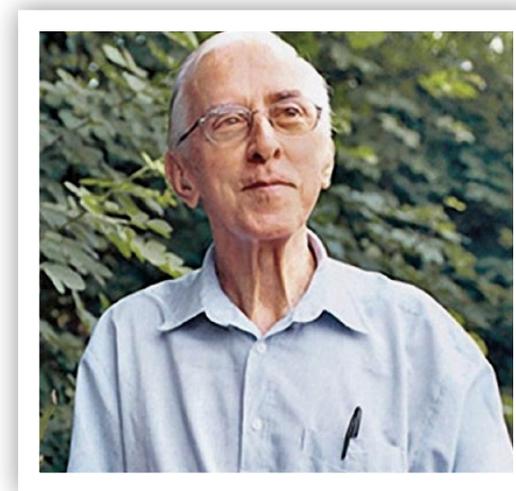
Pedro Casaldàliga (1928-2020)

– Advocate, bishop and liberationist

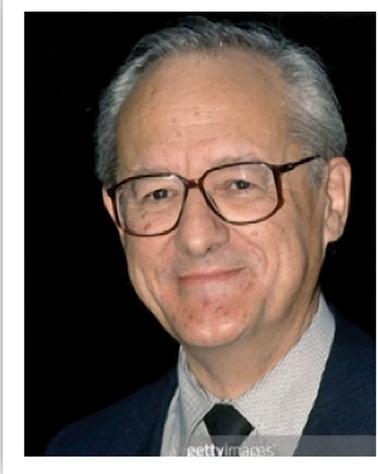
Pedro Casaldàliga was born in Spain and ordained a priest on May 31, 1952. He began missionary work in Brazil in 1968, received his episcopal ordination on October 23, 1971, and served as bishop of São Félix do Araguaia in the Amazon region of Mato Grosso (1971-2005). In this area, large sections of the jungle were carved out to make room for vast plantations, favouring wealthy landowners and impoverishing landless peasants—making them beholden to the landlords. It was to these peasants and Indigenous peoples of the area that Casaldàliga devoted his ministry.

Casaldàliga was frequently threatened with exile or death by Brazil’s military dictatorship. He was summoned to Rome in 1988 to answer questions about his espousal of liberation theology in South America.

“Prayer is hope’s breathing. When we stop praying, we stop hoping” (Pedro Casaldàliga).



Photograph of Pedro Casaldaliga: Vatican News



Blessed Pierre-Lucien Claverie (1938-1996) – Bishop, Dominican, martyr

Pierre-Lucien Claverie was born as a fourth-generation French settler in Algeria. When he travelled to France to pursue a college education, he witnessed protests against the French presence in Algeria. As a result, he realized his experience growing up was influenced by what he later called his experience in “the colonial bubble.”

Upon completing his education and ordination to the priesthood in 1965, Claverie returned to Algeria—now independent following a bitter war. Upon his return, he learned Arabic, studied Islam and worked for dialogue among Christians and Muslims, hoping this dialogue would lead to peace.

Appointed bishop of Oran in 1981, Claverie was committed to human solidarity, emphasizing relationships with everyone, everywhere. He was even called “the bishop of the Muslims” by Muslims themselves. On August 1, 1996, he and his driver were killed in a bombing by Islamic extremists.

For more information visit catholicsaints.info/blessed-pierre-lucien-claverie/.

Marion Theresa Moses (1936-2020) – Physician

In 1966 Marion Moses was studying for a second master’s degree at the University of California, Berkeley, when she saw a notice on a bulletin board seeking medical volunteers to assist the United Farm Workers of America (UFWA) union. Already equipped with a master’s degree in nursing, she decided to try it. What she planned as a weekend turned into five years and changed her life forever.

Working for the union (Delano, California) meant accepting union wages—\$5.00 per week plus room and board. But from the poor, Moses learned invaluable lessons, including that “... the struggle for health care is inseparable from the struggle for human dignity.” She became a trusted confidant of the union leader, Cesar Chavez, tending to him during his long water fasts. In 1967, he urged her to go to the East coast to organize the consumer boycott of table grapes and raise support for the union. In 1970, the successful boycott helped the UFWA win contracts that included banning the pesticide DDT (dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane) in the fields. Chavez then encouraged her to return to school to become a doctor.

While serving as a medical resident in New York, Moses came to serve as Dorothy Day’s physician, speaking to her almost every day and treating her congestive heart failure in the last years of her life. In 1983, now an expert on pesticides, she returned to work for the union for three years. Then, in the late 1980s, she co-founded the Pesticide Education Center, serving as director until her retirement in 2016.



Photograph of Marion Theresa Moses, New York Times (September 15, 2020)

“Cesar [Chavez] was a living example that if you never forget the people, if you don’t get distracted, and can keep your sense of social justice intact, you won’t get lost along the way”
(Marion Moses).



Photo of Chiune Sugihara
Wikimedia Commons

Chiune Sugihara (1900-1986) – Japanese diplomat

Chiune Sugihara served in the Imperial Japanese Army from 1920 to 1922 as a second lieutenant and resigned from his commission in November 1922. The Japanese Foreign Ministry then recruited him to Harbin, China, where he became an expert on Russian affairs.

In 1939, Chiune Sugihara became vice-consul for the Japanese Consulate in Kaunas, Lithuania. As a result of the war, many Jews from across Europe came to Lithuania seeking exit visas. Ignoring official Japanese orders, he issued a visa to anyone who requested it, despite his post not being responsible for this service. His disobedience was eventually discovered, and he was ordered to leave the consulate.

Chiune Sugihara was imprisoned in 1944 by the Soviets for 18 months. When he returned to Japan, he was held in disgrace, forcing him to take on many menial jobs. He was awarded the honour of Righteous Among the Nations for his efforts by the State of Israel. It is believed that several thousand Jews were saved because of his actions.

“I may have disobeyed my government, but if I hadn’t I would have been disobeying God”
(Chiune Sugihara).

Blessed Maria Troncatti (1883-1969) – Missionary

Maria Troncatti was born in Brescia, Italy. Early on, she felt drawn to religious life, and in 1908, she made her profession in the Salesian Sisters. After taking a course in health care, she served as a Red Cross nurse during World War I—an experience that would serve her well in her later life.

In 1922 Troncatti was sent to work in Ecuador. Her mission was among the remote Shuar tribe in the Amazon. Upon her arrival, the chief insisted—on pain of death—that she heal his daughter, who had been shot in a local conflict. Fortunately, she was able to treat the wound and nurse the girl back to health, thus winning the gratitude and respect of her new flock. This was not the end of her ordeals or the perils of life in the Amazon. Yet, as she wrote, “A look at the crucifix gives me life and the courage to work.” She became beloved by the Shuar people, whom she served as a nurse and doctor, as well as a catechist and evangelist, while defending them against the encroachments of settlers.

After more than 40 years in the Amazon, friends and family urged Troncatti to return to Italy, at least for a visit, but she declined. “Every day I am happier in my religious and missionary vocation!” she wrote. She died in a plane crash on August 25, 1969, and was beatified in 2012.

“The Lord does not leave us without rays of sun among the clouds and storms that sometimes surround us”
(Maria Troncatti).

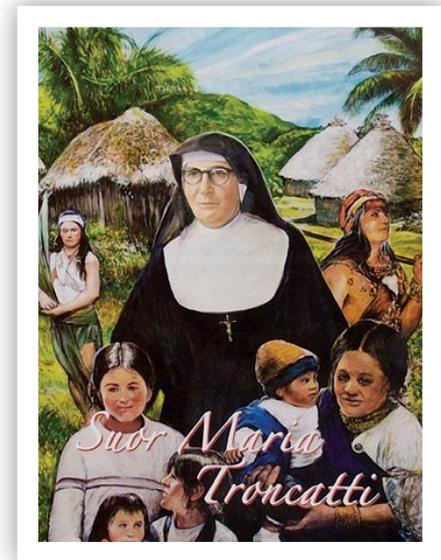


Photo of Maria Troncatti





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