

# **Civic Catholicism**



**The Human Community**

**Mitchell Hillman – Oct. 17 2021**

**“No man is an island, entire of itself;  
every man is a piece of the continent,  
part of the main.”**

**John Donne**



END POLICE  
BRUTALITY

BLACK  
LIVES  
MATTER  
DONT  
SHOOT

NO  
LIVING  
FAG  
GOT  
ENERGY

BLACK  
POWER  
MATTERS

There can be  
no justice on  
stolen land

INDIFFERENCE  
is the optimum  
EVIL

WHITE SILENCE  
=  
VIOLENCE

My mom told  
me to tell ya'll  
'Do Better!'  
#BlackLivesMatter

LAW ENFORCEMENT ON  
HONOR  
On my honor, I  
betray my

BLACK  
LIVES  
MATTER

#Black

Let Me Guess  
I'm protesting  
wrong?

ALLEN IVERS  
THE ANSWER  
PHILADELPHIA  
JULY 3  
201  
CON





STATE PATROL

STATE PATROL

STATE PATROL

STATE PATROL



THE BIG DOG  
UNLEASHED  
R.M.B.

# Agenda

What is Society?

Public Authority

Just War

Common Good

Participation

Social Justice

Workers Rights

# 1:7 What is Society?



**“A *society* is a group of persons bound together organically by a principle of unity that goes beyond each one of them... A society endures through time: it gathers up the past and prepares for the future.”**

**CCC 1880**

**We need society to fully develop**

**We are not all equipped with the same skills and talents. God wills us to receive what we need from others through sharing, kindness and generosity.**

**CCC 1936-1937**

**Societies help us exceed our  
individual capacities.**

**We owe loyalty to our  
communities.**

**The *human person* is the subject  
and end of all social institutions.**

**Subsidiarity**

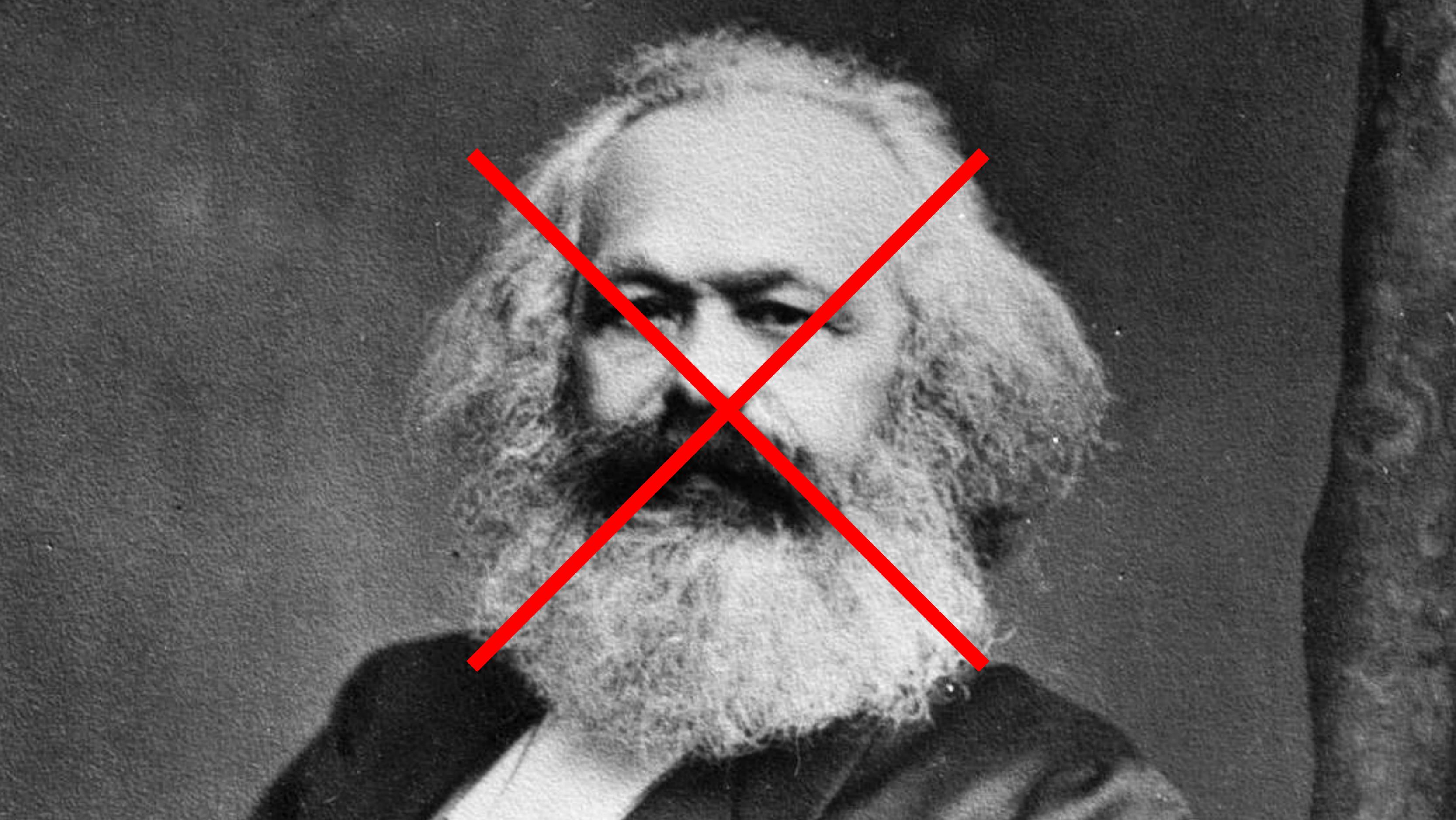
**“A community of a higher order should not interfere in the internal life of a community of a lower order.”**

**CCC 1883**

4 When I see your heavens, the work of your fingers,  
the moon and stars that you set in place—  
5 What is man that you are mindful of him,  
and a son of man that you care for him?  
6 Yet you have made him little less than a god,  
crowned him with glory and honor.  
7 You have given him rule over the works of your hands,  
put all things at his feet:  
8 All sheep and oxen,  
even the beasts of the field,  
9 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea,  
and whatever swims the paths of the seas.

Psalm 8

**Subsidiarity is opposed to all forms of collectivism.**



**Social life should follow God's  
governance which shows a high  
regard for human freedom.**

**The ends never justify  
the means.**

When sin has perverted the social climate: we must appeal to the *inner conversion* of the human person

# 2:7 Public Authority



**Every human community needs  
an authority to govern it.**

**There is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore he who resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment.**

**Romans 13:1-2, 1 Peter 2:13-17**

**The choice of the political regime and the appointment of rulers are left to the free decision of the citizens.**

**The diversity of political regimes is morally acceptable, provided the good of the community is ensured**

**Legitimate authority must act for  
the common good.**

**Human law is legitimate when it  
accords with right reason.**

**An *unjust* law can be a  
kind of violence.**

PRO-LIFE ACTIVITIES

# The Question of Imperfect Legislation



Sign Up for Our Email Newsletters



@uscbbprolife on Twitter



USCCB Respect Life on Facebook

HOME

RESPECT LIFE MONTH

PRAY

LEARN

SERVE

TAKE ACTION

RECENT ITEMS

SUBSCRIBE

[Home](#) > [Pro-Life Activities](#) > [The Question of Imperfect Legislation](#)

by **Cardinal John O'Connor**

Some evils are what we call intrinsic evils, that is, evil in themselves, so that no circumstances can justify them. Direct abortion is such an evil. For example, a mother of a pregnant teenager does not want her daughter to have an abortion because of the emotional and spiritual damage it will cause her daughter. At the same time the mother does not want her daughter to have a baby and perhaps have to give up her future dreams. Is there a legitimate choice here? Can abortion be considered a "lesser evil?" No, because it is an intrinsic evil. It simply cannot be justified.

This principle holds even in regard to rape or incest. An unborn baby is an innocent human being who has committed no crime, regardless of how conception came about. It is never morally right to destroy an innocent human being.

**Lesser of Evils**

**“It is unfair to accuse those who fight for imperfect legislation, as the best they can get at a given time.”**

**Cardinal John O’Conner**

1. there is no other feasible bill restricting existing permissive abortion laws to a greater degree than the proposed bill;
2. the proposed bill is more restrictive than existing law, that is, the bill does not weaken the current law's restraints on abortion; and
3. the proposed bill does not negate the responsibility of future, more restrictive laws

USCCB

3:7 **Just War**



**“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God”**

**Matthew 5:9**

**“All citizens and all governments are obliged to work for the avoidance of war.”**

**CCC 2308**

**We need grace to discern the difference  
between cowardice and violence that  
only makes things worse.**

**CCC 1889**

# Conditions for legitimate defense by military force

1. The damage inflicted by the aggressor is *lasting, grave and certain*
2. All other means of ending conflict must be shown to be impractical or ineffective
3. There must be a serious prospect of success
4. Use of force cannot produce greater evils than the evil to be eliminated

**“Legitimate defense is a grave duty for whoever is responsible for the lives of others or the common good.”**

**CCC 2321**

**Public authorities have the right to impose obligations for national defense.**

**CCC 2310**

**Public authorities have the right to regulate the production and sale of arms.**

**CCC 2316**



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=18vXH-NOJAE>

# 4:7 Common Good



**1. Respect for the person**

## 2. Social well-being and development

# 3. Peace and security

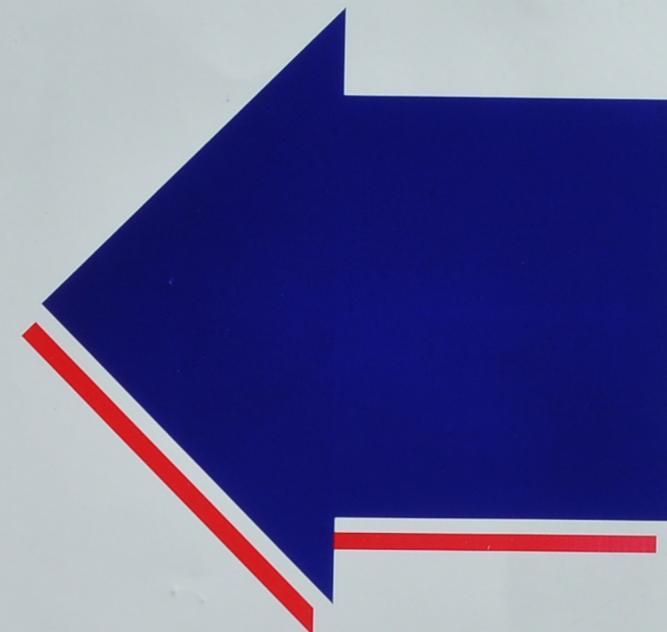
**As the world grows more interconnected  
we must take responsibility for  
the global community**

**CCC 1911**

**“The order of things must be subordinate to the order of persons.”**

**CCC 1881**

# 5:7 Participation



**VOTE**

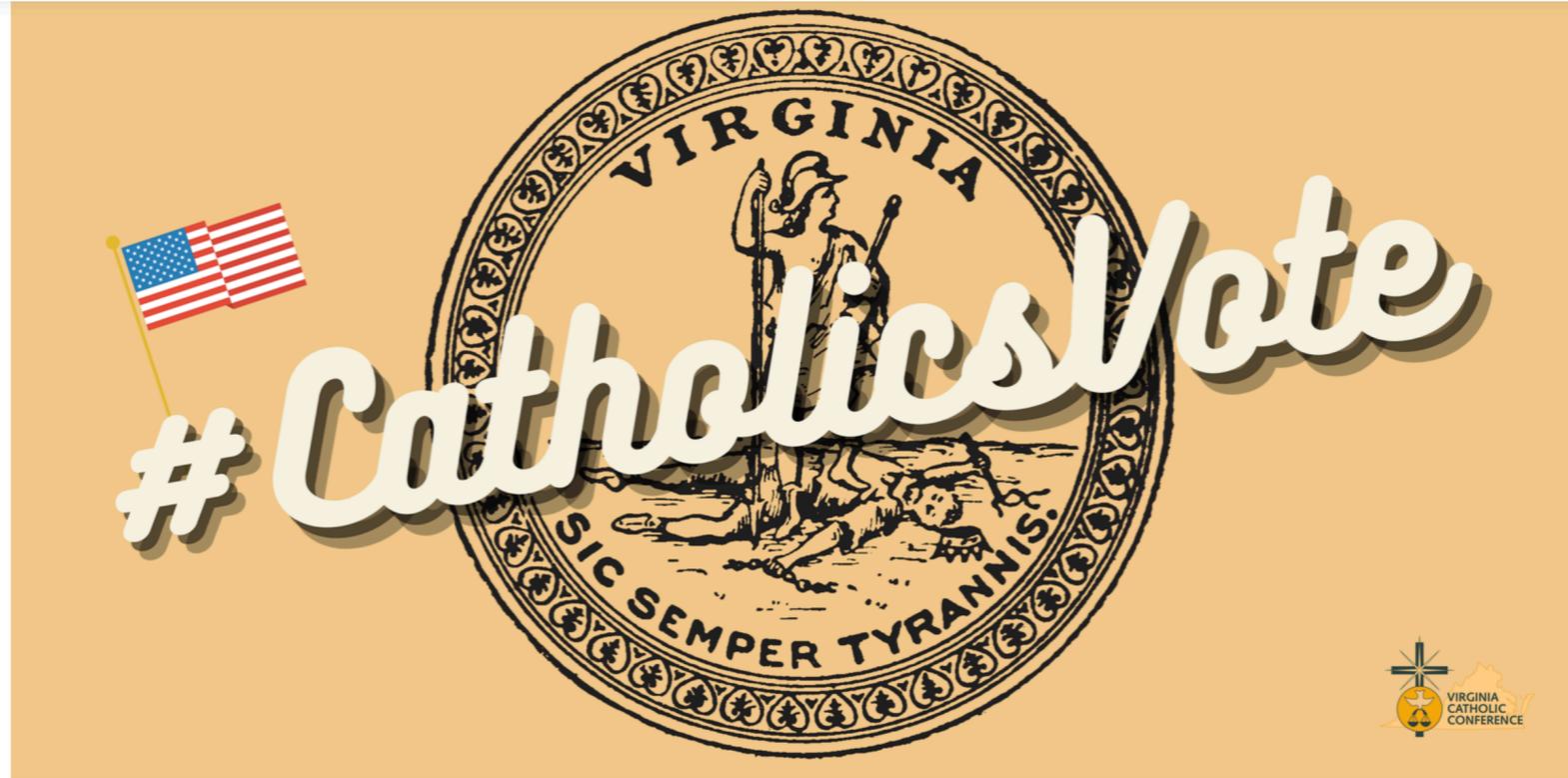
# Personal Responsibility

Education of family

Conscientious work

# Public Life

Citizens should take an active role in the political systems available.



Join our email network

Imagine 700,000 Virginia Catholics standing together for life, justice, family and the common good.

Join Now »



### VOTE WITH A WELL-FORMED CONSCIENCE

- Bishops' Letter: [In English](#) | [In Spanish](#)

### KNOW THE CANDIDATES

- Governor Race: [In English](#) | [In Spanish](#)
- Lieutenant Governor Race: [In English](#) | [In Spanish](#)
- Attorney General Race: [In English](#) | [In Spanish](#)

### PREPARE TO VOTE

- [Register to Vote](#) | Deadline: *October 12, 2021*
- [Absentee and Early Voting](#) | Early Voting Starts: *September 17, 2021*
- [Find Your Polling Place](#) | Election Day: *November 2, 2021*
- [Virginia Department of Elections Homepage](#)

*"We need to participate for the common good. Sometimes we hear: a good Catholic is not interested in politics. This is not true: good Catholics immerse themselves in politics by offering the best of themselves so that the leader can govern." – Pope Francis, 9/16/13*

<https://vacatholic.org/action-center/catholics-vote-2021/>

# 6:7 Social Justice



**“As you did it to one of the least of these  
my brethren, you did it to me.”**

**Matthew 25:40**

**“Every form of social or cultural discrimination in fundamental personal rights on the grounds of sex, race, color, social conditions, language, or religion must be curbed and eradicated as incompatible with God’s design.”**

*Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World , Gaudium et spes 29*

**“Excessive economic and social disparity between individuals and peoples of one human race is a source of scandal”**

**“Solidarity is an eminently Christian virtue. It practices the sharing of spiritual goods even more than material ones.”**

**CCC 1948**

# 7:7 Worker's Rights



Man works the garden  
*before* the fall.

**Human work prolongs the work  
of creation by subduing the earth**

**CCC 2427**

**“During the greater part of his life Jesus shared the condition of the vast majority of human beings: a daily life spent without evident greatness, a life of manual labor.”**

**Economic life is not meant solely to multiply goods produced... it is ordered to the service of persons**

**Work with and for each other**

**CCC 2427**

**Everyone has the right to  
economic initiative**

**CCC 2429**

**Work is a duty**

**CCC 2427**

**“If any one will not work, let him not eat”**

**2 Thess 3:10**

**“Recourse to a strike is morally legitimate when it cannot be avoided, or at least when it is necessary to obtain a proportionate benefit.”**

**“Unemployment almost always wounds its victim’s dignity and threatens the equilibrium of his life.”**

**CCC 2436**

# Further Reading

## ***Catechism of the Catholic Church***

Jesus' Hidden Life: 531

Human Community: 1877-1948

Fifth Commandment: 2259-2330

Seventh Commandment: 2419-2463

## ***Compendium of the Social Doctrine of the Church***

Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace

## ***No Man is an Island***

Thomas Merton

# Conclusion

A society ordered by Love

Balanced, not polemic

Always challenging