

Assumption Resurrection
Social Justice Reflection
Principles Of Social Justice: Solidarity
February, 2025

As with the Common Good, Solidarity is a key virtue in Social Justice. It may not seem to be, but we are all interconnected; St. Paul in his first letter to the Corinthians makes the analogy of all humanity as living in the one body of Christ: “the parts of the body will not take sides. All of them will take care of one another. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it. If one part is honored, every part shares in its joy.” It is good to keep this in mind, because our lives can be fragmented and pulled in many directions. The virtue of Solidarity reminds us that we are, each of us, part of the human family and we are all interdependent. Loving our neighbor, therefore, has local obligations and global dimensions. We must see ourselves in others and collaborate towards solutions. Solidarity is a recognition that we are “all in this together,” and is a commitment to strengthen community and promote a just society. Pope Francis spoke of this at the **World Meeting Of Popular Movements** in 2014: “Solidarity... means much more than an occasional gesture of generosity. It means thinking and acting in terms of community. It means that the lives of all take priority over the appropriation of goods by a few. It also means fighting against the structural causes of poverty and inequality; of the lack of work, land and housing; and of the denial of social and labour rights. It means confronting the destructive effects of the empire of money: forced dislocation, painful emigration, human trafficking, drugs, war, violence and all those realities that many of you suffer and that we are all called upon to transform. Solidarity, understood in its deepest sense, is a way of making history, and this is what the popular movements are doing.” For further exploration:

<https://devp.org/en/catholic-social-teaching/solidarity/>

<https://www.catholiccharitiesoregon.org/blog/catholic-social-teaching-solidarity/>

<https://www.canadianjesuitsinternational.ca/outreach/catholic-social-teaching-and-our-partners/>