



13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME A

29th June 2008

The two last weeks, we have presented two of the themes of the Social Teaching of the Church: "Dignity of every person" & "The Common Good". Today, we continue with the next two themes: "Solidarity" & "Option for the Poor". You can also access the text of those themes on our website. Credit: LUMKO Institute.

Solidarity

- Everything we do must work for our own good and the good of others. When we follow the teaching of the common good, we make sure that our choices and actions enable ourselves and others (in our community, our country and our world) to meet their needs.
- To do this, we need to understand other's needs and problems. However, understanding other people's needs and problems is not enough. We must be as interested in and as concerned about other people's needs and problems as we are about our own. This is solidarity.
- Solidarity is standing with others, especially the poor and marginalised, and view their needs and problems as important as our own.
- Solidarity is not about feeling sorry for people and feeling that we would like to help them in some vague way. Solidarity is about joining together with other people and working together with them, with commitment, for the common good.

Option for the poor

- In reality, not enough people work in solidarity with others for the common good. This results in many people being materially poor, being disadvantaged, oppressed and marginalised in society because of their race, gender, religion, social class, origin or disability. The needs and problems of the poor, the oppressed and the marginalised tend to be ignored in our world.
- This means that the poor, the disadvantaged and the marginalised are in great need of solidarity and require the special commitment of the rest of the community to work with them to meet their needs and find solutions to their problems. This is known as the 'option for the poor'.

Weekend masses: **SATURDAY 5 pm and SUNDAY 10.30 am**
 Confessions: **SATURDAY 4.30 pm** or by appointment
 Weekday masses: **TUESDAY 9 am** and **WEDNESDAY 7.30 pm**
 First Friday of the month: **ADORATION 6.15 pm** and **MASS 7.30 pm**

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For **Mass intentions** and **appointment** with Father, please contact Shantha by phone at the office on Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9.30 to 12.30
 OR leave a message on the mailbox OR send an email.
 For **Sick calls**, please contact
Clive Padayachee on **011.854.5060** or **072.493.4773**
 For **Funerals**, please contact **Vivian Patel** on **011.854.8523**
 or **Cynthia Thomas** on **011.854.5490**
 In case of emergency only, **Fr. Philippe's** cell is **082.729.3758**

Join in the following activities..

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP: every Monday 7.30 pm in the Hall. Contact Edgar 011 852 4960
INTERCESSION PRAYER GROUP: every Friday 10 am - 24 Opdal Street - Extension 5. Contact Vivian 011 854 8523
PRAYER GROUP: every Saturday 3.30 pm in the Hall.
STOP: every Wednesday @ 7.30pm in the Hall. Contact: Sebastian 078.111.9991 or Gregory 082.902.6721

- The option for the poor is the special attention we can offer to the poor, the disadvantaged and the marginalised. However, this does not mean that the poor are helpless and need people to save them and do everything for them.
- The poor are people with skills, abilities and energy who are also able to, and must, stand together in solidarity and work for the common good. The option for the poor is a call to all people to focus on working together with the poor, the disadvantaged and marginalised for their common good.
- It is especially a call to the rich and powerful to share their wealth and resources. Indeed, it is impossible to put the option for the poor into action without the co-operation of the rich and powerful. The option for the poor teaches us to be especially aware of these people in our community, our country and our world and to put special effort into working with these people to meet their needs and solve their problems.
- The gap between the poor and the rich is constantly growing larger, and the option for the poor is to work to make the gap smaller. Future peace in the world depends on the development of the poorest among us.

News from Father Philippe

"I am enjoying my holiday home. The weather is nice and warm. My mother's illness is evolving... she's convinced I am her brother! I will already leave Belgium on the 12th and go to Iran to pay Zain and his family a visit. Landing at St. Thomas' on the 20th."

THE FUND RAISING COMMITTEE OF ST THOMAS CATHOLIC CHURCH PRESENTS

"FLAVOUR OF THE OLD SCHOOL"

at Flame Night Club - Albert St - Lenasia

on SATURDAY, 2nd AUGUST 2008

from 8pm till late

R50-00 per person

Refreshments will be sold

Limited tickets available so get yours ASAP
 from any FRC members to avoid
 disappointment!



Altar Servers Roster

Wed 2nd: Adrian, Jacklyn, Kewan, Janine P., Andrew
 Fri 4th: Tiffany, Steven, Shadé, Kewan, Jason
 Sat 5th: Kyle, Mitchell, Adrian, Tesania, Nathanie
 Sun 6th: Justin, Jacklyn, Janine P., Kylin, Bradley, Andrew

Mass Intentions

Sat 28th: Lawrence & Donovan Joseph
 RIP
 Sun 29th: Tony Mariemuthu RIP
 Tue 1st: Special Intention
 Wed 2nd: vacant

Flower List

Michael & Theresa Bob, Wilfred Bob, Amelda Chetty, Norman & Josephine Dass.

This weekend, there will be a *second collection for Peter's Pence*. Peter's Pence is the practice of lay members of the Roman Catholic Church providing financial support to the Holy See. While the regular tithe goes to the local parish and diocese, the Peter's Pence goes directly to Rome. The practice originated in the eighth century A.D. when Anglo-Saxons decided to send a regular annual sum to the Pope in Rome.

SD Coordinators meeting

next Saturday 5th July from 10 to 12 at Booyens Catholic Church.

Altar Servers Liturgy Workshop

next week Saturday from 9am to 1pm in the small hall at the Cathedral. Please contact Kyle or Brian.

DEDICATION ENVELOPES

Parishioners are invited to collect their dedication envelopes at the back of the Church.

If you haven't yet filled your dedication card, please approach one of the PFC members.