

REACH OUT TO THE POOR

Pope Francis, Shepherd of Truth

Notable quotations from Pope Francis and official teachings
of the Roman Catholic Church

“AGE-OLD WISDOM”

“Stretch forth your hand to the poor” (Sir 6:7). Age-old wisdom has proposed these words as a sacred rule to be followed in life. Today these words remain as timely as ever. They help us fix our gaze on what is essential and overcome the barriers of indifference.

OPPORTUNITY TO MEET JESUS

Poverty always appears in a variety of guises, and calls for attention to each particular situation. In all of these we have an opportunity to encounter the Lord Jesus...

“A FULLY HUMAN LIFE”

Generosity that supports the weak, consoles the afflicted, relieves suffering and restores dignity to those stripped of it, is a condition for a fully human life.

CONSTANT CHALLENGES

Encountering the poor and those in need constantly challenges us and forces us to think. How can we help to eliminate or at least alleviate their marginalization and suffering? How can we help them in their spiritual need? The Christian community is called to be involved in this kind of sharing and to recognize that it cannot be delegated to others.



“SILENT CRY”

The silent cry of so many poor men, women and children should find the people of God at the forefront, always and everywhere, in efforts to give them a voice, to protect and support them in the face of hypocrisy and so many unfulfilled promises, and to invite them to share in the life of the community.

“COMPELLED TO SPEAK”

The Church certainly has no comprehensive solutions to propose, but by the grace of Christ she can offer her witness and her gestures of charity. She ... feels compelled to speak out on behalf of those who lack life’s basic necessities.

A SIGN OF LOVE

A hand held out is a sign; a sign that immediately speaks of closeness, solidarity and love. In these months, when the whole world was prey to a virus that brought pain and death, despair and bewilderment, how many outstretched hands have we seen!

“RESPONSIBILITY AND COMMITMENT”

This year’s theme ... is ... a summons to responsibility and commitment as men and women who are part of our one human family. It encourages us to bear the burdens of the weakest, in accord with the words of St. Paul ... The Apostle teaches that the freedom bestowed through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ makes us individually responsible for serving others, especially the weakest. This is not an option, but rather a sign of the authenticity of the faith we profess.

UNITY AND FRATERNITY

May our prayer to Mary, Mother of the Poor, unite these, her beloved children, with all those who serve them in Christ’s name... May that prayer enable outstretched hands to become an embrace of shared and rediscovered fraternity.

(Source: Message for World Day of Poor, 6/13/20)

Download this monthly bulletin insert for your parish
Presentation Ministries
3230 McHenry, Cincinnati, Ohio 45211
www.presentationministries.com
(513) 662-5378 orders@presentationministries.com