

Elective C: Catholic Social Teaching

Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society

This curriculum framework maps EFJ resources to the [USCCB Doctrinal Elements of a Curriculum Framework](#) for the end of Elective C: Living as a Disciple of Jesus Christ in Society to help high school teachers who are transitioning to an all digital classroom. Clicking the links on this document will take you directly to the corresponding EFJ resource on the website. Note: Numbering on this document corresponds to the outline of [the curriculum](#).

Resources for Earlier Standards in Elective C:

[Encyclical Outlines Toolbox](#)

[Biblical Roots of CST](#)

[Global Development Timeline aligned with CST](#)

[How to Read CST Documents](#)

III. Major Themes of Catholic Social Teaching:

[Themes of CST Overview Handouts](#)

A. Human Dignity

- [CST and Human Dignity](#)
- [Video Guide: Pro Life Women Speak Out](#)
- [Film Discussion Guide: End Game](#)
- [Link to All Resources Tagged with Human Dignity](#)

B. Call to Family, Community, and Participation

- [Reflection: The Social Nature of the Human Person](#)
- [CST and Voting](#)
- [Link to All Resources Tagged with Call to Family](#)

C. Rights and Responsibilities

- [CST and Housing](#)
- [Series: Human Rights Through the Principles of Catholic Social Thought](#)
- [Link to All Resources Tagged with Rights and Responsibilities](#)

D. Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

- [Prayer for Those in Poverty](#)
- [Care for the Vulnerable and COVID-19](#)
- [The Environment and Option for the Poor](#)

E. Dignity of Work and Rights of Workers

- [Reflection: On the Conditions of Labor Today](#)
- [CST and Unions](#)
- [CST and Wages](#)
- [Link to All Resources Tagged with Dignity of Work](#)

F. Solidarity

- [CST and Solidarity](#)
- [Film Discussion Guide: El Deportado](#)
- [Pope Francis on Sustainable Urban Communities, Encounter, and Solidarity](#)
- [Link to All Resources Tagged with Global Solidarity](#)

G. Care for God's Creation

- [CST and Sustainable Development Goals](#)
- [CST Reflection for *Laudato Si'*](#)
- [Video Guide: The Economic Injustice of Plastic](#)
- [Link to All Resources Tagged with Care for Creation](#)

IV. Sin and Its Social Dimensions:

A. Concept of social sin.

1. Difference between "social sin" and personal sin.
 - a. Personal sin at the root of social sin.
 - [Backgrounder: Social & Structural Sin](#)
 - b. Social sin stems from collective personal sins.
 - 1) Personal sin that contributes to social injustice.
 - [CST and Racism](#)
 - [Love Requires Justice: Art as a Medium to Address Systemic Racism](#)
 - 2) Personal choices in response to social injustice.
 - [Struggling Against Structural Sin](#)
 - [Civil Rights Leaders- Prayer Cards](#)
 - [CST and Prophetic Witness](#)
 - [CST and Advocacy](#)
2. Foundations for social sin.
 - a. Attitudes that foster unjust treatment.
 - b. Social structures which foster unjust treatment of others.
 - [CST and Racism](#)
 - [CST and Migration](#)
 - [Fact Sheet: Migrants and Refugees](#)
 - [Faces of DACA](#)
 - c. Social sin can be passed onto future generations.
 - [Prayer for Reconciliation](#)
 - [Indigenous People's Day and CST](#)
 - [The Australian Fires: A Prayer for Conversion](#)

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B. The social dimension of the Commandments.

1. First three Commandments- relationship with God (CCC, nos. 2084-2195)
 - a. Duty and the right to freely worship God.
 - b. Societal authorities should ensure freedom of worship.
 - [Religious Freedom: A Right Rooted in Dignity](#)
 - [Dignitatis Humanae](#)
2. The last seven Commandments focus on our relationship with others: the moral teaching of our faith must be brought into people's interaction with each other (N.B. [1] positive aspects of commandment, [2] failures to live it).
 - [Prayer and Reflection: Injustice and Violence in Baltimore](#)
 - [CST and Civic Responsibility](#)
 - [CST in the News / Public Life](#)

C. Social dimensions of the Beatitudes (CCC, nos. 1720-1729).

- [Books that Connect to CST Themes](#)
- [Film Discussion Guide: Harriet](#)
- [Just Music Playlist: Peace](#)
- [Prayer for the U.S. Women of Faith Murdered in El Salvador](#)

D. The two Great Commandments: love God with all of your heart, soul, and mind, and love your neighbor as yourself (Mt. 22:36-40).

V. Challenges:

A. Why shouldn't we look out for ourselves first? No one else will look out for me.

- [CST and the Common Good](#)
- [Kinship: Lessons from *Tattoos on the Heart*](#)

B. Isn't the degree of a person's success and achievement really measured in terms of financial security and wealth?

- [Ecological Conversion Reflection and Prayer](#)
- [Catholic Social Thought and Consumerism](#)
- [Prayer on Consumerism](#)
- [Film Discussion Guide: The True Cost](#)

C. Isn't not fighting back or getting even with someone who hurts or offends you a sign of weakness?

1. No. It takes a lot more courage and strength to forgive and not seek vengeance than to fight back or try to get even.
 - [Film Discussion Guide: The Power of Forgiveness](#)
 - [CST: Justice and Peace](#)

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2. Jesus Christ, in his life and his teaching, challenges us to see the truth that power and strength are to be measured in terms of virtue and inner strength.

- [The Prodigal Son, the Death Penalty, and Reconciliation](#)
- [Unit: CST and Restorative Justice](#)

3. We have the example of Jesus Christ, who in not fighting back and in forgiving his executioners showed true strength.

- [Learning to Live Gospel Nonviolence](#)
- [A Witness Speaks: Forgiveness after Genocide](#)

4. We have the example of the martyrs, which shows the strength and power that faith and God's grace give.

- [The Salvadoran Martyrs and Their Legacy for Justice](#)
- [Saints, Martyrs, and Heroes](#)

D. Isn't it more important to work for justice than to engage in charity?

1. The works of justice do not exclude the works of charity or vice versa.

- [Care for the Vulnerable and COVID-19](#)
- [Food Drives and Justice Concerns: Charity and Justice](#)

2. Charity should shape justice to make it Christian; charity is not extra or optional.

- [Pope Benedict XVI Points to Eucharistic Call to Charity and Justice](#)
- [Caritas in Veritate, Charity in Truth](#)