

# SERVICE

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## Questions for Consideration

1. What staff or systems are in place dedicated to the justice and peace/social ministry?
2. How is support provided to the justice and peace/social ministry, in terms of both personnel and budget?
3. In what way do volunteers serve in and/or support local interfaith or civic organizations that:
  - address specific human needs such as homelessness and hunger?
  - provide assistance to battered spouses and children?
  - provide alternatives to abortion for women faced with an unplanned pregnancy?
  - work for social justice in the community (for example, affordable housing, inclusive zoning, etc)?
  - empower low-income persons, such as groups funded by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development?
4. How does the parish or campus ministry participate in legislative advocacy through the Virginia Catholic Conference, the Virginia Council of Churches and the Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy? How is awareness raised about legislative issues?
5. Does the parish or campus ministry promote global solidarity through twinning with Haiti or another developing country, educating on global issues or participating in Operation Rice Bowl or other programs of Catholic Relief Services? How is global solidarity promoted in the parish or campus ministry? What educational, participatory or travel opportunities are offered?
6. To what extent does the parish or campus ministry integrate education on Catholic social teaching and opportunities for service learning into its religious education programs and in the parish school? Does it promote participation in JustFaith and similar justice education programs?
7. Is there is a literature rack? Does it include materials on justice and peace and respect life issues?

8. How does the parish or campus ministry integrate justice and peace and respect for creation into liturgical celebrations (for example, Prayers of the Faithful, homilies, music and the sign of peace)?
9. How do preaching and catechesis enable members to bring the principles of justice, peace and respect for the life and dignity of all people into their everyday life and work?
10. How does the parish or campus community seek opportunities to discuss and address issues with followers of the Gospel and other religious traditions concerning social and ethical questions?
11. Does the parish and school (if applicable) conserve energy or recycle paper, plastic and cans or otherwise demonstrate care for God's creation?
12. Are facilities accessible to persons with disabilities (those who are hard of hearing, who use wheelchairs or who are developmentally delayed)? Are programs designed to meet these parishioners' needs? How are facilities and programs assessed for accessibility? Do we use people-first language when speaking or writing to a person with a disability?
13. How does the parish encourage participation of traditionally marginalized groups, such as racial and ethnic groups, women, low-income parishioners and persons with disabilities, in parish life and its leadership?
14. How does the parish call its members to be just stewards of their resources of time, talent and money? Does the parish provide ways of being financially accountable to its members?
15. Do the parish and school (if applicable) pay a living wage to its employees? Do the parish and school (if applicable) provide employee benefits in accordance with diocesan personnel policies?
16. Are parish facilities available for use by community groups addressing human needs, such as Alcoholics Anonymous and other support groups? How are community and neighborhood concerns integrated into the life of the parish?

17. Does the parish make use of the resources available through the diocesan Office of Justice and Peace?

18. How might the staff of the diocesan offices assist your parish to develop programs and processes important for full implementation of the SERVICE dimension for *We Walk by Faith*?