CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Catholic Social Teaching principles (CST) cover all spheres of life- the economic, political, personal and spiritual. The principles are inspired by the writings of the Pope and other Catholic leaders about social issues. CST reflects the signs of the times through scripture and is a powerful tool to assess social realities in the light of the gospel. CST can be transformative.

Caritas Australia's work is shaped by the tradition of Catholic Social Teaching.

HUMAN DIGNITY

WE BELIEVE THAT EVERY PERSON IS CREATED IN GOD'S IMAGE AND THAT ALL HUMAN LIFE IS SACRED. WE BELIEVE IN THE DIGNITY OF EACH PERSON.

SOLIDARITY

WE BELIEVE WE ARE PART OF ONE HUMAN FAMILY AND HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO HELP EACH PERSON ACHIEVE THEIR FULL POTENTIAL.

CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

WE BELIEVE THAT CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME IS VITAL FOR THE COMMON GOOD OF ALL PEOPLE. WE BELIEVE A TRUE ECOLOGICAL APPROACH IS A SOCIAL APPROACH. WE ARE TO BE PROTECTORS OF CREATION AND OF ONE ANOTHER.

PREFERENTIAL OPTION FOR THE POOR

WE BELIEVE IN PRIORITISING THE WOMEN, MEN AND CHILDREN MOST VULNERABLE TO EXTREME POVERTY AND INJUSTICE.

THE COMMON GOOD

WE BELIEVE IN WORKING TOWARDS THE COMMON GOOD AND LOOKING BEYOND OUR OWN PERSONAL INTERESTS.

SUBSIDIARITY

WE BELIEVE IN EVERY PERSON'S RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DECISIONS THAT AFFECT THEIR OWN LIVES.

PARTICIPATION

WE BELIEVE THAT EVERY PERSON CAN BE THE ARCHITECT OF CHANGE IN THEIR OWN LIFE.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

WE BELIEVE THAT EVERYONE HAS THE RIGHT TO ACCESS THE MEANS TO SUPPORT THEMSELVES AND THEIR FAMILY.