



## Catholic Charities Social Concerns

Hello!

Ahhh, Summer... a time to slow down, get outside, and enjoy this incredible season. Recently I had a fun girls day with my young daughters and several of my nieces. We went to the butterfly gardens at the Indianapolis Zoo, and then headed to Monument Circle in downtown Indianapolis to enjoy ice cream cones on the Circle. It was a great day of giggles, butterflies and ice cream!

While we were walking to the ice cream shop, all the girls noticed several people in tattered clothes who were randomly sleeping on the sidewalks and others who were sitting, begging, looking tired.

The girls were all silent as we walked, observing the people they were passing. I could tell they were really trying to process what they were seeing. Then the questions came...

*"Why is that man sleeping on the sidewalk?"*

*"Why are his clothes ripped?"*

*"I can see that man's underwear through the holes in his pants."*

*"Do they not have a home?"*

*"Do you think they are hungry?"*

*"What is in that garbage bag; is that all her belongings?"*

Though this was a great teaching opportunity for me to talk to them about mercy, love, seeing Christ in others - it was tough to help them understand the complexities of homelessness without blowing their little brain cells.

As the girls sat and ate their ice cream, giggling and being sweet girls, I could tell my nine-year-old niece was still struggling with what she witnessed in the faces of the homeless we encountered. While the others were talking, she came to me quietly and leaned in to whisper to me... "Aunt Theresa, I have some money left over from my ice cream, can I give it to the man over there?" - while indicating with her eyes who she meant. I told her that would be really nice. I watched as she approached the man, put her money in his cup, nodded to him with a smile and scurried back to me.

I realized in that simple gesture, my niece was the face of Christ to this man, as she in turn saw the face of Christ in him. I am not sure what impact my niece's gesture had on that man as she shared her money and a smile with him, but I do know by the look on my niece's face that another seed of compassion and mercy was planted in her soul.

Which leads me to this month's Social Concerns featured ministry - [Share the Journey](#).

Last September, Pope Francis announced a two year campaign called Share the Journey. The emphasis is about overcoming our fears and encountering those around us in the migrant and refugee, and in my niece's case in the homeless, the destitute and the forgotten. It is about asking questions, listening to stories, seeing the face of Christ in all we encounter.

Make sure you **scroll down** to see more information on the Share the Journey Campaign. There are many engaging resources that can be used by individuals, parishes or families.

**Lastly**, don't forget to register for the [Parish Social Ministry Gathering](#) that will be held on **Aug. 25th** at Holy Name Parish in Beech Grove, IN.

If you are wondering what to expect from the day, this first PSM Gathering will be more of a PSM 101 type of day. We will have a keynote presentation by Archbishop Thompson, a panel discussion with several different ministries discussing what has made them successful and an overview of PSM covering topics such as;

*What is PSM?*

*How can we invite and retain volunteers?*

*Why is spirituality so critical to the work of serving others?*

*How do we even evaluate what ministries are needed for our parish and surrounding communities?*

**Scroll down to learn how you can register!**

To each of you, Thank You for your continued love and support for your brothers and sisters here locally and around the world. In honor of my niece, I thought I would leave you with this quote.

*"Let us always meet each other with a smile,  
for a smile is the beginning of love."  
- St. Teresa of Calcutta*

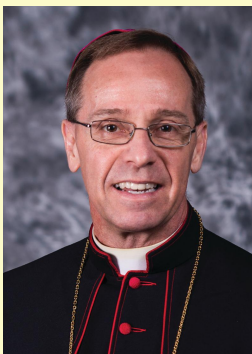
Sincerely in Christ,  
Theresa Chamblee  
Catholic Charities - Social Concerns

**Keep Scrolling down to See More!!!**

[Visit our Website - Catholic Charities - Social Concerns](#)

*Register Today!*

## **Parish Social Ministry Gathering** **Saturday, August 25th**



**Keynote Speaker:**  
**Archbishop**  
**Charles C. Thompson**

**Time:** 9am to 2:30pm \* **Doors Open:** 8:15am

**Location:** Holy Name of Jesus Parish - Beech Grove, IN  
89 N. 17th Ave. Beech Grove, IN 46107

**Cost:** \$15.00 (to cover the cost of lunch - financial assistance available)

**Who Should Attend:** Priests, deacons, PLC's, parish staff, parish volunteers, and those interested in social concerns.

**Optional:** Mass offered at Holy Name at 8:15am

**REGISTER**

**[www.archindy.org/ParishSocialMinistryGathering](http://www.archindy.org/ParishSocialMinistryGathering)**

## What To Expect from the PSM Gathering

- **Spirituality and Social Mission**
- **Practical Ways to Live our Faith through Service**
- **Catholic Social Teaching**
- **Sharing Best Practices**
- **Learn about Existing Ministries within the Archdiocese**
- **Dive Deeper into what is Parish Social Ministry (PSM 101)**
- **Lunch**

## Ministries of Social Concerns

### What is Social Concerns?

Social Concerns encourages the Community to grow in a deeper understanding of Catholic Social Teaching by providing resources and strategies for effective action in parishes, schools and surrounding communities. Most importantly, it calls us to a deeper understanding in living out the Two Greatest Commandments, which is to Love God and to Love our Neighbors, both locally and globally."

Below are the Ministries that fall under Catholic Charities - Social Concerns.



# Love Your Neighbor



Share the  
Journey  
#sharejourney



## Highlighted Ministry

# Love Your Neighbor



Share the  
Journey  
#sharejourney



In September of last year, Pope Francis announced the two year **"Share the Journey"** migration campaign by encouraging people to meet with migrants and listen to their stories, rather than treat them as mere numbers.

*Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.* Jesus calls us to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Now, Pope Francis is calling us to share a journey with our neighbors – all our neighbors, not only those who live near us, look like us, speak like us or pray like us.

Our neighbors include many of the world's most vulnerable people: migrants and refugees fleeing war, poverty and persecution, people who seek nothing more than basic needs and a path forward. Just like us, they are children of God, deserving of dignity and love. We as a church are answering the Pope's call to encounter and walk with these migrants and refugees in support and solidarity.

As millions of God's Children flee war, persecution and poverty, Pope Francis, Caritas Internationalis, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Catholic Charities USA, and Catholic Relief Services invite you to share their journey by walking with them in prayer and support.

You can find more information about "Share the Journey" [Here](#).

The website also includes stories, videos and resources on how individuals, families and parish communities can support Migrants and Refugees.

To Learn More about "Share the Journey" please visit [Here](#).

## FEATURED RESOURCE

### New Resource from Share the Journey **Be Unafraid - To Face Your Fears**

"Share the Journey" has a new resource called [Be Unafraid - To Face Your Fears](#).

Many believe our fears can set us apart, but we believe they can bring us together.

Share the Journey interviewed dozens of refugees and citizens born in the United States about their fears. This is what they shared with us

about their journey.

**Be Unafraid** to ask the questions.

**Be Unafraid** to listen to the answers.

Then, **Be Unafraid** to be the one  
who begins a movement of hope.



## FROM OUR FRIENDS

Office of Human Life and Dignity

### Substance Addiction Ministry Mass

Prayer for those struggling with addictions, their families and  
community

**August 14, 2018 at 7:00pm**

Ss. Peter and Paul Cathedral

1347 North Meridian St.

Indianapolis, IN 46202

Celebrant: Archbishop Charles Thompson

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**Catholic Charities**  
*Providing Help. Creating Hope. Serving All.*