



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					<p><b>1</b> Every January 1 the pope issues a message for the World Day of Peace. Read the <a href="#">2021 message</a> and use the <a href="#">accompanying resources</a> to reflect on how God is calling you to bring peace and reconciliation to the world. Make a resolution about how you will live out this call in your community this year.</p>	<p><b>2</b> For over 50 years, the <a href="#">Catholic Campaign for Human Development</a> (CCHD) has been working to empower new mothers, immigrants, the elderly, and families to together address the root causes of poverty in their communities. <a href="#">Read about the work of CCHD</a> and how you can join <a href="#">the celebration of 50 years</a> of transformative work.</p>
<p><b>3</b> <a href="#">Solidarity</a> invites us to remember that we are all children of God who share in one another's joy and suffering. Join us for the 2021 <a href="#">Catholic Social Ministry Gathering!</a> This year, we will pray, learn, and advocate together on the disparities revealed by COVID-19 and re-imagine new models of justice and solidarity.</p>	<p><b>4</b> Today is the feast of <a href="#">St. Elizabeth Ann Seton</a>, the first canonized U.S. citizen and founder of the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph, which serves and educates children living in poverty. Her work laid the foundation for the <a href="#">American Catholic School system</a>. Her order and Catholic schools continue to <a href="#">help disadvantaged youth</a> flourish through Catholic education.</p>	<p><b>5</b> The Gospel reminds us that we are called to root our lives of faith in the authentic love of neighbor. How can you be in solidarity with your brother or sister in need? <a href="#">Read</a> how Catholics at a parish in New Orleans and their sister parish in Nicaragua help each other in times of need. Compassion has no borders.</p>	<p><b>6</b> The relationship between mental health and poverty is complex. Poverty can often intensify the experience of mental illness and may also increase the likelihood of the onset of mental illness. <a href="#">Read more</a> about how mental health and poverty intersect and how you can get involved.</p>	<p><b>7</b> <a href="#">Poverty</a> is not a catch-phrase—it is a serious reality that many are living. Our faith invites us to respond to the needs of those who are most vulnerable. How can you better respond to the poor in your community?</p>	<p><b>8</b> <a href="#">Louis Damani Jones was the 2020 Cardinal Bernardin New Leadership Award</a> recipient for his commitment to sharing the good news of CCHD through his work in Belleville and St. Louis. How can you get involved in your parish's efforts to address poverty?</p>	<p><b>9</b> <a href="#">Work</a> is much more than simply earning a living; it is a way of using our gifts to participate in God's creation. We are called to uphold the <a href="#">dignity and rights of workers</a> including just wages, humane conditions, respectful treatment, etc. How can you help ensure <a href="#">workers' rights and dignity</a> are respected?</p>

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<p><b>10</b> Through <a href="#">Baptism</a>, we share in Christ’s prophetic mission as people of God “to bring glad tidings to the poor...proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free” (<a href="#">Lk 4:18</a>). Learn more about <a href="#">the Catholic Campaign for Human Development</a> and how it’s been living out this call and working to break the cycle of poverty for over 50 years.</p>	<p><b>11</b> Today is National <a href="#">Human Trafficking</a> Awareness Day. There are many <a href="#">children</a>, women, and men being <a href="#">trafficked</a> in the world today. <a href="#">Use this film</a> to learn about the systemic problems that lead to trafficking. Find out about your <a href="#">slavery footprint</a> and learn about how you can make an impact by <a href="#">purchasing fair trade products</a>.</p>	<p><b>12</b> The CCHD <a href="#">Creating on the Margins</a> Art Contest in 2020 focused on homelessness and access to affordable housing with the theme of “More than a Roof.” Read about the winner of last year’s contest and learn more about her three-dimensional art piece, “<a href="#">Trapped Under a Broken Roof</a>.” <a href="#">Learn more</a> about this year’s contest and see who you can invite to participate.</p>	<p><b>13</b> The <a href="#">disparate impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on communities of color and persons in poverty</a> has revealed and exacerbated long-existing inequalities. Participate in the <a href="#">virtual Catholic Social Ministry Gathering</a> to pray, learn, and advocate on the disparities revealed by COVID-19 and new models of justice and solidarity.</p>	<p><b>14</b> The Church teaches that every person has a right and a duty to <a href="#">participate in society</a>, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. What are you doing in your family and community to <a href="#">encourage others to participate</a>, especially in the work to address the systems and structures that keep people in poverty?</p>	<p><b>15</b> Our faith calls us to care for <a href="#">God’s creation</a> and help poor countries and communities adapt to the effects of climate change. Read this <a href="#">story</a> about the connection between poverty and climate change in Bangladesh. What can you do at home and in your parish community to better care for God’s creation?</p>	<p><b>16</b> We are called to lift up and support those who are vulnerable as they seek change in their communities. A key element of breaking the cycle of poverty is empowering communities through <a href="#">subsidiarity</a> and supporting their work through <a href="#">solidarity</a>. Learn more about <a href="#">one organization</a> that empowers community members in South Texas.</p>
<p><b>17</b> The <a href="#">Two Feet of Love in Action</a> are two unique but complementary ways to fight poverty. Watch this <a href="#">video</a> about how one foot is social justice—eliminating root causes of poverty, and the second is charitable works—responding to immediate needs. Search for a <a href="#">local organization</a> you can join and learn about the <a href="#">current policies</a> affecting persons in poverty.</p>	<p><b>18</b> Today begins the <a href="#">Week of Prayer for Christian Unity</a>, celebrated each year on January 18-25. The 2021 theme is “<a href="#">Abide in my love ... you shall bear much fruit</a>” (John 15:1-17), chosen by the Monastic Community of Grandchamp in Switzerland. They remind us about praying for closer communion with our brothers and sisters in Christ and greater solidarity with the whole of creation. Read and reflect on this <a href="#">example</a> of people of good will working to build unity with all creation.</p>	<p><b>19</b> Yesterday was Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Dr. King fought tirelessly to eliminate injustice and segregation from the minds and hearts of the American people. He understood that eliminating poverty is not simply a hand-out; it is restoring the respect that all persons deserve. Learn about—and join—<a href="#">Catholics in the work to address the sin of racism</a> and end racial injustice in our communities.</p>	<p><b>20</b> Today is the inauguration of Joseph R. Biden, Jr. as the 46th President of the United States. Join the Church in <a href="#">prayer</a> for President Biden and all people being inaugurated into elected office today. Take some time today to discern how you can participate in the public square and hold your elected leaders accountable to their important responsibilities.</p>	<p><b>21</b> <a href="#">Venerable Fr. Augustus Tolton</a> was the first African American priest in the U.S. and dedicated himself to his parishioners, many of whom were living in poverty. Learn more about <a href="#">Fr. Tolton and other inspiring holy men and women</a> who worked courageously to address racism in their communities.</p>	<p><b>22</b> Today is the <a href="#">Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children</a>. <a href="#">Read</a> about how our call to create a culture of life is tied to our call to empower those living in poverty. Participate in this day through prayer or events offered by your diocese to observe the anniversary of <i>Roe v. Wade</i>.</p>	<p><b>23</b> Throughout our lives, God accompanies us. In a very special way, <a href="#">God is close to those who suffer and are marginalized</a>. Watch this <a href="#">video</a> and reflect: What priority do those who experience poverty have in my heart?</p>

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<p>24 <a href="#">Poverty disproportionately impacts the elderly</a>. Read about how CCHD funded organizations such as the <a href="#">Massachusetts Senior Action Council</a> have organized around issues such as healthcare, transportation, and voter engagement that are often challenging for elderly to access, trapping them in a cycle of poverty.</p>	<p>25 Many face barriers to breaking the cycle of poverty due to <a href="#">discrimination</a> or <a href="#">racism</a>. Read and reflect on <a href="#">Open Wide Our Hearts</a>, the bishops' new pastoral letter against racism and use the <a href="#">accompanying educational and pastoral resources</a>. How is this letter calling you to conversion?</p>	<p>26 Poverty does not strike all demographics equally. Nearly all of the roots of systemic poverty such as lack of access to food, <a href="#">affordable housing</a>, and quality education disproportionately affect communities of color. <a href="#">Read more</a> about how CCHD is working to address food inequality and homelessness.</p>	<p>27 Read about <a href="#">Living Hope: A Voice for the Vulnerable</a>. CCHD provides funds to help Living Hope empower members of the disability community. They work to not only provide wheelchairs, safety, and community to people experiencing poverty and disability, but they also work to give them a voice and place in society.</p>	<p>28 In <a href="#">Fratelli Tutti</a>, Pope Francis invites all people of good will to live out a discipleship built on love that fosters universal fraternity and social friendship. How can you foster a solidarity that continually seeks justice in your community? <a href="#">Sign up</a> to receive our six-part study guide for faith groups, families, and individuals to journey through <a href="#">Fratelli Tutti</a>.</p>	<p>29 "In service of the poor, there is no room for competition. Rather, we should humbly recognize that the Spirit is the source of our actions that reveal God's closeness and his answer to our prayers." (<a href="#">Pope Francis</a>) Say a prayer that the Holy Spirit will lead you to be of service to the poor.</p>	<p>30 We are called to listen to the needs of victims and uphold the dignity of offenders through practicing <a href="#">restorative justice</a> and opposing the <a href="#">death penalty</a>. How can you show God's love and mercy to those in need of healing and hope?</p>
<p>31 Keep the conversation about poverty going with your family, in your parish, and neighborhood by signing up to receive our newsletter <a href="#">Notes for Neighbors</a> and other communications from the <a href="#">Department of Justice Peace and Human Development</a>.</p>	<p>For more info and tips on getting involved, visit <a href="http://PovertyUSA.org">PovertyUSA.org</a> or <a href="http://PobrezaUSA.org">PobrezaUSA.org</a>. Longer daily reflections are available at <a href="http://bit.ly/USCCBpoverty">http://bit.ly/USCCBpoverty</a></p>					