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***REACHING OUT***

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS**

**THE WORK OF CARITAS**

**CARITAS RESOURCES**

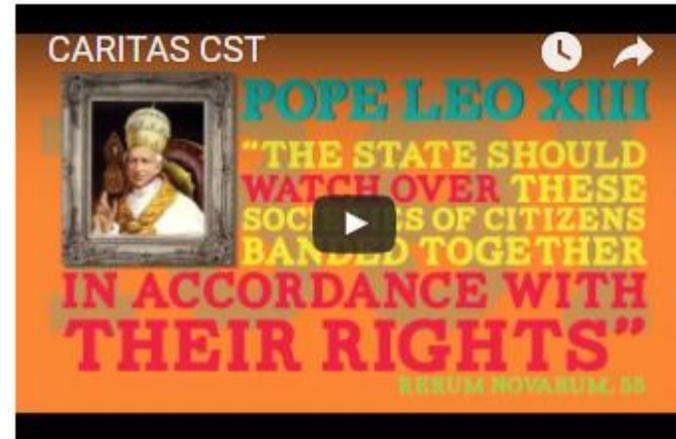


# WHAT IS CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING?

Catholic Social Teaching sums up the teachings of the Church on social issues.

It looks to Scripture and the experience and wisdom of the Christian community to help us know how to respond to social justice issues of our time.

Catholic Social Teaching promotes a vision of a just society.



[Watch this short animation 'CST in 3 minutes', created by several Caritas Internationalis agencies.](#)

# WE BELIEVE

IN THE COMMON GOOD



# WE BELIEVE



## IN PARTICIPATION



Photo credit: Danielle Lyonne

# WE BELIEVE



IN THE DIGNITY OF THE HUMAN PERSON



# WE BELIEVE

IN SOLIDARITY



Photo credit: Richard Wainwright/Caritas Australia

# WE BELIEVE

IN STEWARDSHIP OF CREATION



# WE BELIEVE



IN THE PREFERENTIAL OPTION FOR THE POOR





**POPE LEO XIII**

**"THE STATE SHOULD  
WATCH OVER THESE  
SOCIETIES OF CITIZENS  
BANDED TOGETHER**

**IN ACCORDANCE WITH  
THEIR RIGHTS"**

**RERUM NOVARUM, 58**

# PROJECT COMPASSION

FOR A JUST FUTURE

## WHAT DOES CARITAS (CA) DO?



**Caritas**  
AUSTRALIA

The Catholic agency  
for international aid  
and development

For more than 50 years,  
Caritas Australia has  
worked together with our  
neighbours in Australia  
and around the world to  
**combat poverty,  
promote justice and  
uphold human dignity.**



**PROJECT COMPASSION**  
FOR A JUST FUTURE

Caritas Australia is the **Catholic** agency for international aid and development.

Caritas Australia **helps people to help themselves, regardless of race, political beliefs, gender or religion.**

Our work is guided by the **Catholic Social Teaching** moral framework, with an emphasis on upholding the **Dignity** of the human person.

Our core focus is the **poorest of the economically poor**- the most marginalised



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# PROJECT COMPASSION

## FOR A JUST FUTURE

### Where we work

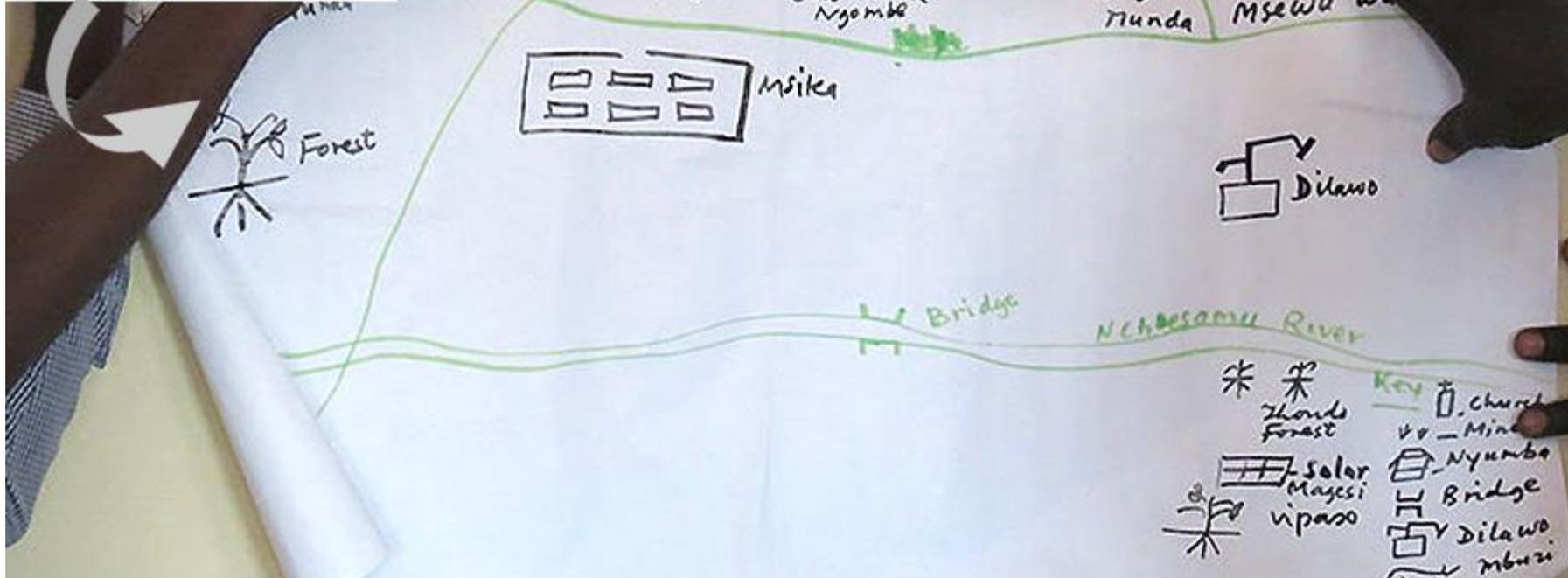




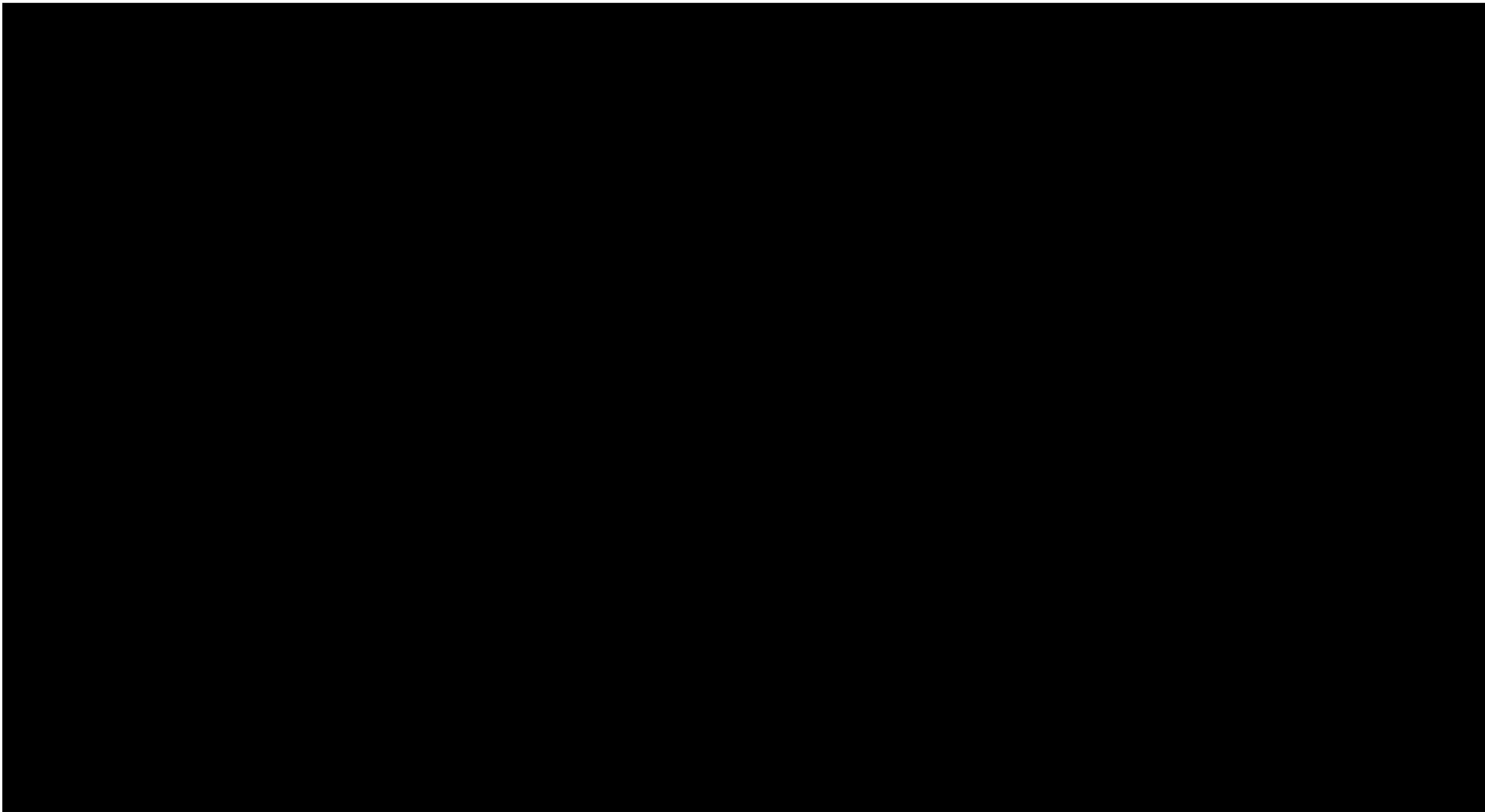
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Donate now >

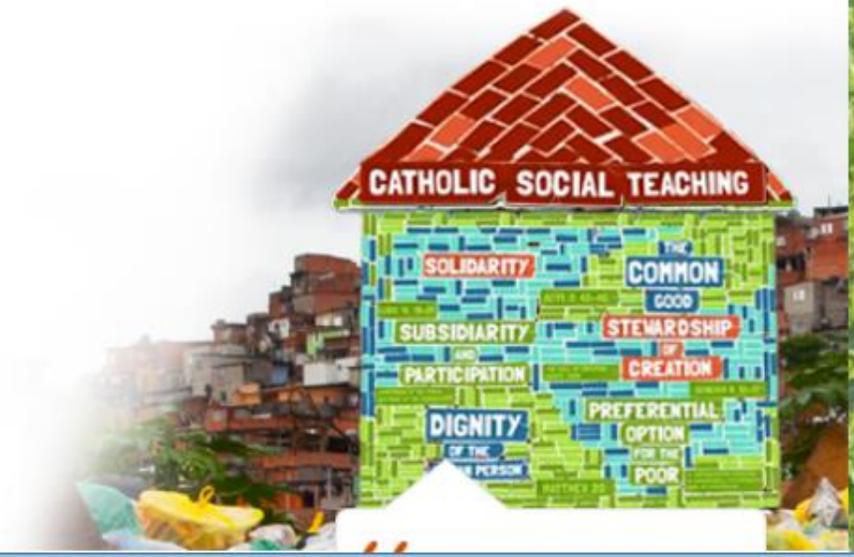
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Home > Learn > Catholic Social Teaching

# Catholic Social Teaching

Catholic Social Teaching covers all spheres of life – the economic, political, personal and spiritual.

With human dignity at its centre, a holistic approach to development founded on the principles of CST, is what Pope Paul VI called 'authentic development'. Explore the Catholic Social Teaching principles and how they guide the work of Caritas Australia.



# PRINCIPLES OF CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

Click on the icons below to learn more about each Catholic Social Teaching principle.



# PROJECT COMPASSION

FOR A JUST FUTURE

# THANK YOU!

## Photo credits

Janaki, Nepal: Rattanak, Cambodia: Bayan, Jordan – Richard Wainwright. Evangeline, Australia – Sascha Costigan. Ditosa, Mozambique – Erin Johnson and Ivy Khoury. Psyche Mae, Philippines – Nicole Clements and Sean Sprague



**Caritas**  
AUSTRALIA

The Catholic agency  
for international aid  
and development



*"There are three stages which should normally be followed in the reduction of social principles into practice.*

*First, one reviews the concrete situation;*

*secondly, one forms a judgement on it in the light of these same principles;*

*thirdly, one decides what the circumstances can and should be done to implement these principles.*

*These are the three stages that are usually expressed in the three terms:*

*observe, judge act."*

*Pope John XXIII, Mater et Magistra, 1961 (# 236)*

# CATHOLIC WORLDVIEW

Catholic Social Teaching offer us a lens, a way of viewing the world (and issues) from a Catholic perspective. We can use CSTs to:

- See
- Judge
- Act



A group of school students in Bolivia.

Credit: Wayne Quilliam



End poverty  
Promote justice  
Uphold dignity

# OUR RESPONSE

As people of faith, we cannot sit idly by when millions of our sisters and brothers face numerous challenges.

A commitment to social justice is an essential characteristic of a life lived according to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



Gina and Mary construct a thatched roof in Agok. Caritas and the local church have supported people with food, shelter, and other relief supplies.

Credit: Paul Jeffrey for Caritas Internationalis



End poverty  
Promote justice  
Uphold dignity

# WE ARE CALLED TO ACTION

The call to action for justice is a clear message from the universal church.

*"Our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active."*

*1 John 3:18*



Children attending school on the Thai-Burma border.  
Credit: Oliver White



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