


 FAITH & WORD EDITION  
**BLEST ARE WE®**

*Grades 1–6 and Junior High*  
with  
*Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions*  
Reflections of the U.S. Catholic Bishops  
United States Catholic Conference (Washington, D.C., 1998)

RCL Benziger is pleased to provide this correlation of **BLEST ARE WE FAITH & WORD EDITION Grades 1–6 and Junior High** with the latest statement on Catholic social teachings from the U.S. Bishops. In the introduction to *Sharing Catholic Social Teaching*, the bishops highlight two gifts with which the Catholic community is gifted: our remarkable commitment to Catholic education and catechesis in all its forms and our rich tradition of Catholic social teachings. The document calls for a “strengthened commitment to sharing our social teachings at every level of Catholic education.” The bishops urge us to recognize that because social justice is at the heart of who we are and what we believe, it must be shared more effectively.

In the document, the bishops call on Catholic educators and administrators to “address the lack of familiarity with Catholic social teaching among faculty and students.” Our bishops also encourage the development of formation programs to “enhance the explicit teaching of Catholic social doctrine” in the ministry of religious education. The bishops further urge publishers of Catholic educational materials “to continue and to strengthen efforts to incorporate the principles of Catholic social teaching into all materials.”

In *Sharing Catholic Social Teaching*, the bishops outline seven key themes that are “at the heart of our Catholic social tradition.” These themes are summarized on the next page. On the following pages, you will find a chart that shows how these key themes are developed and taught in **BLEST ARE WE FAITH & WORD EDITION Grades 1–6 and Junior High**. Our commitment at RCL Benziger is an ongoing partnership with religious educators, administrators, parents, and students. Working together, we can challenge our young people to live their faith and to put into practice the Church’s social doctrines in their daily lives.

*Catholic Social Teachings*

**Major Catholic Social Teaching Themes**

***Life and Dignity of the Human Person***

Human life is sacred and the dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. Every person is precious, people are more important than things, and the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances the life and dignity of the human person.

***Call to Family, Life, and Participation***

The human person is not only sacred but also social. The family is the central institution that must be supported and strengthened. Human beings grow and achieve fulfillment in community. People have a right and a duty to participate in society. Government and other institutions must protect human life and dignity and promote the common good.

***Rights and Responsibilities***

Every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities—to one another, to our families, and to the larger society.

***Option for the Poor and Vulnerable***

Catholic teaching proclaims that a basic moral test is how our most vulnerable members are faring. Our tradition points to the story of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31–46) and teaches us to put the needs of the poor and vulnerable first.

***The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers***

The economy must serve people. Work is more than a way to make a living, it is a continuing participation in God’s creation. To protect the dignity of work, the basic rights of workers must be respected—the right to productive work, to decent and fair wages, to organize and join unions, to private property, and to economic initiative.

***Solidarity***

Catholic social teaching proclaims that we are our brothers’ and sisters’ keepers. We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. The virtue of solidarity means loving our neighbor in an interdependent world.

***Care for God’s Creation***

Care for the earth is a requirement of our faith. We are called to protect people and the planet, living our faith in relationship with all God’s creation.

## Catholic Social Teachings in BLEST ARE WE FAITH & WORD

<i>Principals of Catholic Social Teaching</i>	<i>Grade 1</i>	<i>Grade 2</i>	<i>Grade 3</i>	<i>Grade 4</i>	<i>Grade 5</i>	<i>Grade 6</i>	<i>Grade 7</i>	<i>Grade 8</i>
<b>Life and Dignity of the Human Person</b>	Ch. 6 Ch. 7 Ch. 11	Ch. 3 Ch. 4 Ch. 11 Ch. 14 Ch. 15	Ch. 1 Ch. 3 Ch. 6 Ch. 9 Ch. 18 Ch. 19	Ch. 3 Ch. 7 Ch. 10 Ch. 11 F&S: Saint Martin de Porres	Ch. 1 Ch. 2 Ch. 3 Ch. 7 Ch. 10 Ch. 12 Ch. 20	Ch. 5 Ch. 7 Ch. 12 Ch. 16 Ch. 19	Ch. 2* Ch. 5 Ch. 6 Ch. 7 Ch. 9 Ch. 10 Ch. 14* Ch. 17 Ch. 19* F&S: Lent Jean Vanier	Ch. 1* Ch. 2 Ch. 6* Ch. 11 Ch. 15* Ch. 19 F&S: Kateri Tekakwitha
<b>Call to Family, Community, and Participation</b>	Ch. 1 Ch. 2 Ch. 3 Ch. 4 Ch. 9 Ch. 10 Ch. 12 Ch. 13 Ch. 14 Ch. 18 Ch. 20 F&S: Guardian Angels: The Holy Family	Ch. 1 Ch. 2 Ch. 8 Ch. 1 Ch. 13 Ch. 16 Ch. 17 F&S: All Saints Lent Easter	Ch. 1 Ch. 2 Ch. 7 Ch. 10 Ch. 15 Ch. 17 F&S: Advent	Ch. 2 Ch. 4 Ch. 6 Ch. 7 Ch. 10 Ch. 12 Ch. 16 Ch. 18 F&S: Christmas	Ch. 2 Ch. 3 Ch. 4 Ch. 5 Ch. 7 Ch. 9 Ch. 13 Ch. 16 Ch. 18 Ch. 19 F&S: Easter	Ch. 2 Ch. 3 Ch. 4 Ch. 6 Ch. 9 Ch. 10 Ch. 14 Ch. 17 Ch. 18 Ch. 19	Ch. 2 Ch. 3* Ch. 7* Ch. 9* Ch. 11 Ch. 12* Ch. 14 Ch. 15 Ch. 18* Saint Rita of Cascia	Ch. 1 Ch. 2* Ch. 3 Ch. 4 Ch. 7* Ch. 11* Ch. 12* Ch. 13* Ch. 14* Ch. 17* Ch. 18* F&S: Easter The Carmelites
<b>Rights and Responsibilities</b>	Ch. 1 Ch. 2 Ch. 13 Ch. 14 Ch. 17 Ch. 17 F&S Lent	Ch. 5 Ch. 6 Ch. 7 Ch. 15 Ch. 18 F&S: Christmas	Ch. 5 Ch. 7 Ch. 12 Ch. 13 F&S: Saint Dominic Lent	Ch. 3 Ch. 5 Ch. 9 Ch. 12 Ch. 14 Ch. 15 Ch. 17 Ch. 19	Ch. 1 Ch. 8 Ch. 11 Ch. 13 Ch. 14 Ch. 15 Ch. 16 F&S: Saint Faustina Kowalska Feast of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ	Ch. 3 Ch. 6 Ch. 7 Ch. 11 Ch. 13 Ch. 15 Ch. 20 F&S: Lent	Ch. 1* Ch. 3 Ch. 7 Ch. 10* Ch. 11 Ch. 15* Ch. 16 Ch. 17 Ch. 20* F&S: Holy Week Saint Francis Xavier St. Augustine The Society of Jesus	Ch. 1 Ch. 2 Ch. 4* Ch. 5* Ch. 9: Ch. 10 Ch. 13 Ch. 15 Ch. 16 Ch. 17 Ch. 20* F&S: Advent Lent Saint Raymond of Penafort
<b>Option for the Poor and Vulnerable</b>	Ch. 8 Ch. 13 Ch. 15 F&S: Saint Nicholas Holy People	Ch. 1 Ch. 3 Ch. 11 Ch. 12 Ch. 15 Ch. 19 Ch. 20 F&S: Advent Holy People	Ch. 3 Ch. 11 Ch. 18 Ch. 19 Ch. 20 F&S: Dorothy Day	Ch. 4 Ch. 7 Ch. 10 Ch. 17 Ch. 18 Ch. 19 F&S: Blessed Teresa of Calcutta	Ch. 3 Ch. 5 Ch. 6 Ch. 7 Ch. 12 Ch. 17 F&S: Lent	Ch. 4 Ch. 9 Ch. 11 Ch. 13 Ch. 14 Ch. 19 F&S: Venerable Solanus Casey	Ch. 3 Ch. 4* Ch. 5 Ch. 6* Ch. 7 Ch. 8* Ch. 13 Ch. 18 F&S: Easter Mother Frances Warde	Ch. 3* Ch. 7 Ch. 16* Ch. 19 Ch. 20 F&S: Lent Saint John Nepomucene Neumann
<b>The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers</b>	Ch. 7 Ch. 11 Ch. 13 Ch. 16 Ch. 19	Ch. 3 Ch. 8 Ch. 15 Ch. 19	Ch. 7 Ch. 8 Ch. 11 Ch. 14 Ch. 19 F&S: Dorothy Day	Ch. 8 Ch. 12 Ch. 13 Ch. 17	Ch. 6 Ch. 15 Ch. 18 Ch. 20	Ch. 7 Ch. 8 Ch. 10 Ch. 13	Ch. 11 Ch. 13 Ch. 16* Ch. 17* Ch. 18 Ch. 19	Ch. 8* Ch. 9* Ch. 10* Ch. 12 Ch. 19 Ch. 20
<b>Solidarity</b>	Ch. 6 Ch. 15 Ch. 16 Ch. 19	Ch. 6 Ch. 11 Ch. 13 Ch. 17 F&S: St. Margaret of Scotland	Ch. 1 Ch. 2 Ch. 9 Ch. 10 Ch. 13 Ch. 20	Ch. 5 Ch. 6 Ch. 8 Ch. 17 Ch. 19 F&S: Advent	Ch. 5 Ch. 9 Ch. 11 Ch. 15 Ch. 18 Ch. 19 F&S: Blessed Junipero Serra	Ch. 2 Ch. 5 Ch. 6 Ch. 9 Ch. 13 Ch. 15 Ch. 19 F&S: Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross	Ch. 5* Ch. 6 Ch. 12 Ch. 13* Ch. 14 F&S: Advent, Saint Jane Frances de Chantal	Ch. 3 Ch. 5 Ch. 7: Ch. 8: Ch. 12 Ch. 13 Ch. 19* F&S: Holy Week The Blessed Mother and Saint aximilian Kolbe Father Jerzy Popieluszko
<b>Care for God's Creation</b>	Ch. 4 Ch. 5	Ch. 6 Ch. 9 Ch. 10 Ch. 20	Ch. 4 Ch. 11 Ch. 16 Ch. 20	Ch. 1 Ch. 10 Ch. 11 Ch. 14 Ch. 20	Ch. 1 Ch. 14 Ch. 19	Ch. 1 Ch. 8 Ch. 12 Ch. 14 Ch. 19	Ch. 11* Ch. 20 F&S: Pope Paul VI	Ch. 10 Ch. 11 Ch. 19 F&S: Joseph Cardinal Bernardin