



Parish Social Ministry and Covid-19

Opportunities to connect Spiritual and Corporal Works of Mercy with Catholic Social Teaching

Pray Together

- [Prayer for Solidarity](#) [Pope Francis releases special video](#)
- [Coronavirus COVID-19 - United States Conference of Bishops](#)
- [Live Rosary and Mass times from the Archdiocese of Detroit](#)
- Pope Francis has invited the entire Christian world to unite in praying the Our Father on Thursday, March 25 on the Solemnity of the Annunciation (7 AM EST)
- [Friday, March 27, 1:00 PM EST Blessing from Pope Francis](#)
- More prayers on this [website](#)
- [Examen for Life During COVID-19](#) (Ignatian Solidarity Network)
- Add different intercessions to Meal Time, Morning or Evening prayers
- Use Lectio Divina with the Sunday Scriptures [Busted Halo](#)
- [Stations of the Cross: Overcoming Racism](#) can be used at home, or shared for virtual participation by faith communities. (USCCB)

REACH OUT

Transformed by prayer, we are called to **reach out together**. Reaching out begins with encountering one another in our families and faith communities, and expands to our neighborhoods and the wider community. Reaching out involves getting to know and listening to people of different cultures, ethnicities, abilities, and faith traditions; those whose experiences are different than our own; and others who are working to make a difference in our community. Reaching out acknowledges the many parts of the Body of Christ and is necessary to building a foundation from which we can learn and act together.

[From Mental Health First Aid](#)

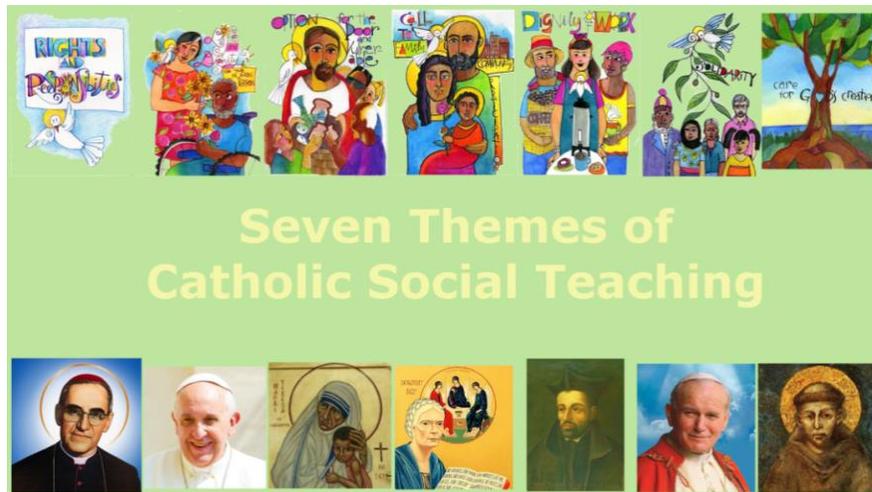
[From the Center for Advocacy and Outreach Gospel Hope](#)

Learn Together

www.wearesaltandlight.org

Transformed by our encounter with God and neighbor, we strive to learn more about those issues impacting our families, local communities, and brothers and sisters around the world. Catholic social teaching illuminates the problems facing our local and global communities with the light of our faith and guides us as we seek to understand root causes and discern how we are called to act.

- [Unleash the Gospel - Ten Guideposts for Christians in the time of the Coronavirus](#)
- [Resource Center for Catholic Social Teaching](#)
CST 101 is a collaborative 7-part video and discussion guide series presented by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic Relief Services on [Catholic social teaching](#). The videos bring the themes of Catholic social teaching to life and inspire us to put our faith into action. The series also includes downloadable posters and handouts for adults and kids, in English and Spanish. The artwork featured in the videos and accompanying videos are courtesy of Br. Mickey McGrath, OSFS.
- See the parish bulletin for Mental Health tips [NAMI: National Alliance on Mental Illness](#)
- [The Gamaliel Network](#)
- Monitor the CDC COVID-19 [website](#) and your state and local health department



Act/Serve Together

“A prayer that does not lead you to practical action for your brother,” Pope Francis says, “is a sterile and incomplete prayer.” Prayer leads to reaching out and learning, which leads to action. At the same time, action flows from prayer and its fruits of love, gratitude, forgiveness, compassion, hope, respect, hospitality and humility. Act Together includes service and relief, community development, advocacy, ethical choices and practices, and preaching. Such faith-inspired actions are part of our efforts for the New Evangelization and God’s work to transform individuals and communities.

Advocacy Information and links to contact Congress, both to take action and to extend gratitude, are in the bulletin and on Facebook.

- [Catholic Advocacy Network](#)
- [From Catholic Charities USA to Congressional Leadership](#)
- [USCCB Migration and Refugee Services](#)
 1. Access to health care for all regardless of status.
 2. Ending all enforcement around sensitive locations such as hospitals and clinics.
 3. Suspension of the implementation of "Public Charge" during this time.
 4. Regarding USCIS office closures, extension for certain Visa categories, including DACA renewals,

Charitable Giving Committee disbursed \$550.00 to each of the following organizations: Gleaners, the Pontiac Community Foundation, and the Detroit Area on Aging

Lenten Alms recipient is CCRT – Catholic Community Response Team. There are prepared envelopes in the Narthex and in their absence one may mail a check to St. Mary’s with CCRT and envelope # in the memo line.

Charism of Writing Invite families to mail greetings / art work to Mercy Bellbrook and or Grovecrest

Bellbrook
 c/o Sheila, Community Life
 873 West Avon Road
 Rochester Hills, MI 48307

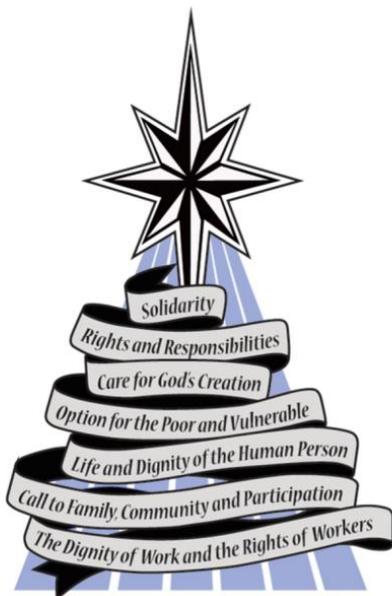
Grovecrest
 c/o Liz Edgar
 121 Prall St
 Pontiac, MI 48341

Call or write with a greeting to two names above you in the parish directory

This email, takeaction@smoth.org, was set up by Christian Service to send and collect action alerts; now it could be used more broadly during the virus to stay in touch with Holy Spirit inspired actions. **Email a suggestion to take, email an action already taken, or a random act of kindness** experienced. Some actions will be incorporated into Facebook and others into published stories in time for Pentecost. Names are optional. Pictures are welcome.

HANDS ON PROJECTS

- **HOPE Shelter** 90 meals were prepared and delivered by parishioners on Sunday, March 22. Thank you shoppers, cooks, and drivers!
- **The Neighborhood House Food Pantry** cannot keep up without help. The demand for their typical financial assistance has exploded over the past two weeks. You can help now without leaving your home.
 - A financial donation made to Neighborhood House: <https://www.ranh.org/donate-now>
 - A Neighborhood House Food Pantry Donation <https://www.ranh.org/wish-list>
- Thursday, April 23 **Blood Drive** is still on until further notice.
- **Grace Centers of Hope** 'The Guys love cookies'. SMOTH bakers will provide batches of chocolate cookies in the near distant future. GCH could use powdered milk, noodles, and cereal. When St. Mary's is open a drop box will be provided in the gym
- **Lighthouse** is desperate for housing and food. Families may pack a box or grocery bag of food and deliver to Pontiac or shop on Amazon. [Food Donation for Lighthouse](#)
- [CCSEM Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan](#)
- **Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries (DRMM)**
 - run the front desk as well as monitor hallways at several of our facilities
 - Health care professionals are needed to help work in our clinic. You will be issued personal protection equipment and will receive training from The Detroit Health Department. The shifts will be 4 hours (or longer if you are able) and will run 6 times daily within a 24 hour rotation.
 - donate food, prepared food, disinfecting items, hygiene items, baby care items, or other items please let us know and we can give you drop off information
 - If you are interested, please call Jamie McMillen direct at **313-771-9002**Thank you for your kindness and consideration



How do the principles of CST inform our prayer, interactions with others, learning, charitable actions and media response when applied to the Coronavirus: individually, as a Faith Community and as a country?



SOCIAL JUSTICE • CHARITABLE WORKS