

## THE BUSY CHRISTIAN'S GUIDE TO CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING

- 1760-70      Inventions of the "spinning Jenny", water frame, and "spinning mule" replace hand-woven textiles and workers in England.  
Invention of the steam engine and cotton gin.
- 1800-25      First "Factory Act" in England; trade unions legal in England.
- 1815          Industrial Revolution spreads to other European countries following French Revolution and Napoleonic Wars.
- 1848          Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels issue The Communist Manifesto; socialism spreads.
- 1880-1915    Height of imperialism (European control of Africa, parts of Asia and India; U.S. involvement in Latin America).
- 1886          Haymarket Massacre in Chicago between workers, socialists, radicals and police. American Federation of Labor founded.
- 1889          Cardinal Henry Edward Manning of Westminster becomes famous for supporting strike of London dockers.  
Hull House founded in Chicago by Jane Addams.
- 1890          Sherman Anti-Trust Act.
- 1891          **Rerum Novarum** - *The Condition of Labor*
- 1893          Panic of 1893 brings failure of 491 banks and over 15,000 commercial institutions.
- 1894          Pullman strike smashed by federal troops.
- 1900          Founding of Socialist Revolutionary Party of Russia.
- 1902          First full-time session of League of Nations.
- 1925          Adolf Hitler publishes Mein Kampf.
- 1926          General strike in Britain
- 1929          Great Depression. Unemployment in Germany exceeds 3 million.
- 1930          German elections: 107 Nazis win seats in Reichstag.  
War breaks out between Paraguay and Bolivia.  
Revolution in Brazil.  
Revolution in Argentina.
- 1931          National Government formed in Britain after severe financial crisis.  
Japan invades Manchuria.
- Quadragesimo Anno** - *The Reconstruction of the Social Order*
- 1932          Hunger marches by unemployed in Britain.
- 1933          Hitler becomes German Chancellor; Reichstag burned.  
Franklin Roosevelt enunciates "Good Neighbor" policy; aid sent to Central and South America; U.S. troops withdrawn from Nicaragua.

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- Japanese occupy China north of Great Wall; Japan leaves League of Nations after League condemns its actions in China.
- 1935 Germany reinstates conscription, repudiates military clauses of Versailles Treaty.
- 1936 German troops occupy Rhineland.
- 1937 Japanese take Nanjing and Shanghai ("Rape of Nanjing").
- 1938 Austria declared part of German Reich after German occupation.
- 1939-45 World War II
- 1939 Fighting between Japan and Russia; Japan repulsed.
- 1945 U.N. established.  
U.S. deploys first atomic bomb destroying Hiroshima and later, Nagasaki.
- 1947 India and Pakistan become independent.
- 1948 U.N. Declaration of Human Rights.
- 1949 Feminist Simone de Beauvoir, The Second Sex.
- 1950 Korean War begins.  
World population at 2.5 billion. Birth population explosion.
- 1952 First atomic submarine.  
U.S. explodes first hydrogen bomb.
- 1954 Senator Joseph McCarthy's hunt for communists condemned by U.S. Senate.  
Vietnam split at 17<sup>th</sup> parallel; North Vietnam under Communist control.  
Cambodia becomes independent from France.
- 1955 Bandung Conference: 29 Afro-Asian nonaligned states gather to condemn colonialism.
- 1956 Martin Luther King, Jr. leads bus boycott in Alabama.  
Seven different governments in Haiti (to September 1957).
- 1957 Sputnik I and II launched by USSR.  
The Common Market begins.
- 1957-67 Many African nations gain independence from colonial rule.
- 1958 U.S. launches Vanguard and Explorer satellites.
- 1959 Fidel Castro's guerrillas take Havana; Castro becomes Prime Minister.
- 1960 Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) instituted.

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- 1961-73 U.S. involvement in Vietnam War.
- 1961 Berlin Wall erected to separate East and West Berlin.  
The first human to travel in space around the Earth.
- Mater et Magistra** - *Christianity and Social Progress*
- 1962 Second Vatican Council, attended by over 2,000.  
Cuban missile crisis.  
Algeria gains independence from France; Uganda independence from Britain.
- 1963 Nuclear Test Ban Treaty by U.S., USSR and Britain.  
John F. Kennedy assassinated.  
**Pacem in Terris** - *Peace on Earth*
- 1964 Nelson Mandela and seven other black leaders sentenced to life imprisonment in South Africa.
- 1965 Worldwide demonstrations against Vietnam War; civil rights march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama; Ku Klux Klan shootings in Selma.  
Ian Smith unilaterally declares Rhodesia independent.
- Gaudium et Spes** - *The Church in the Modern World*
- 1966 Race riots in Chicago, Cleveland and Brooklyn.
- 1967-68 China and France join U.S., USSR and Britain as thermonuclear powers.
- 1967 Six-day War between Israel and neighboring Arab states.
- Populorum Progressio** - *The Development of Peoples*
- 1968 Warsaw Pact troops occupy Czechoslovakia and halt "Prague Spring."  
Students protest movements in France, U.S., Germany and Japan.  
Riots in Londonderry by civil rights demonstrators.  
"Flower Power" in San Francisco.
- 1969 Martial law proclaimed in Spain following riots.  
Neil Armstrong first person to walk on the moon.  
Woodstock music festival.
- 1970 The Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty goes into effect after ratification by 43 nations.
- The US and the UK lowers the voting age to 18 from 21.
- 1971 **Octogesima Adveniens** - *A Call to Action*
- 1973-74 Arab oil embargo.
- 1974 India sixth nuclear power.
- 1975 Vietnam War ends with South falling to communists.

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### **Evangelii Nuntiandi** - *Evangelization in the Modern World*

- 1978 World's first "test-tube baby" born in England.
- 1979 Salt II Treaty signed by Carter and Brezhnev.  
Shah of Iran goes into exile.  
Ayatollah Khomeini returns to Iran from exile in Paris.  
Egypt and Israel sign peace treaty ending state of war existing since 1948.  
U.S. withdraws its support of Nicaragua's President Somoza; Somoza goes into exile; Sandinista government sworn in.  
Soviet troops in Afghanistan.  
Mother Teresa awarded Nobel Peace Prize.

### **Redemptor Hominis** - *Redeemer of Humankind*

- 1980 Solidarity union founded in Poland under Lech Walesa after two months of strikes.  
World Health Organization announces elimination of smallpox.
- 1981 Iran releases U.S. Embassy hostages after 444 days.

### **Laborem Exercens** - *On Human Work*

- 1982 Solidarity outlawed by Polish government.
- 1984 AIDS virus discovered.  
Mikhail Gorbachev becomes General Secretary of Communist Party of the Soviet Union.
- 1986 Haitians overthrow President "Baby Doc" Duvalier.  
"People Power" revolution in Philippines; Corazon Aquino becomes President.  
U.S. planes bomb five sites in Libya in retaliation for Berlin disco bombing.  
Gorbachev initiates policies of glasnost and perestroika.  
Andrei Sakharov, Russian physicist and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, released from exile.

### **"Economic Justice for All"** - Pastoral Letter - National Conference of Catholic Bishops (USA)

- 1987 "Black Monday" on New York Stock Exchange; one of the worst days for shares in 20<sup>th</sup> Century  
Iran Contra hearings.  
U.S. and USSR sign historic intermediate-range nuclear forces treaty to reduce nuclear arsenals.

### **Sollicitudo Rei Socialis** - *The Social Concerns of the Church*

- 1988 Soviets begin withdrawal from Afghanistan.
- 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre in Beijing, China following demonstrations for democracy.  
First non-communist Prime Minister of Poland since World War II.
- 1989 Opening of Hungarian border brings mass exodus of East Germans into West Germany.

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- Vietnamese troops complete withdrawal from Cambodia after 10 years of occupation.  
East German Communist party leader forced to resign.  
Berlin wall comes down after 28 years.  
Czechoslovakia's Communist party leaders resign.  
Romania's Communist dictator executed.  
U.S. invasion of Panama.
- 1990 South Africa's Nelson Mandela freed from prison after 26 years.  
Lithuania declares independence from USSR.  
Free elections in Romania, Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria.  
Iraq invades Kuwait; U.S. and allies send troops to Persian Gulf region.  
Unification of East and West Germany.
- 1991 Persian Gulf War; Kuwait liberated; civil war in Iraq.
- Centesimus Annus - The 100<sup>th</sup> Year**
- The Harvest of Justice is Sown in Peace (1993)
- Pope John Paul II Statement on Immigration (1995)
- 1991 Putting Children and Families First (1991)
- 1992 US and UN intervention in Somalia with OPERATION RESTORE HOPE to end famine and civil war.  
Signing of the Maastricht treaty on 7th February, which founded the European Union.  
Bosnia and Herzegovina Recognized As Independent
- 1993 The US and Soviet Union sign Start II reducing nuclear warheads by 3,500 each
- Federal Agents raid religious cult in Waco, Texas.
- Slovakia Gains Independence when Czechoslovakia divides into the Czech Republic and Slovakia.
- Intermittent Civil War in Rwanda between Majority Hutus and minority Tutsis after assassination of President estimates of 1/2 million people killed in civil wars.
- Communities of Salt and Light - (Bishops' statement on parish life as the center of living out Catholic Social Teaching - 1993)
- 1994 PLO leader Yasser Arafat returns to Palestine after 27 years in exile.  
The Irish Republican Army announces a "complete cessation of military operations."  
Confronting a Culture of Violence (Stand Against Violence - 1994)
- 1995 Truck Bomb devastates Oklahoma City Federal Building killing 168 people.

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United Nations intervenes in Bosnian Civil War and cease fire after peace agreement.

The Gospel of Life (Evangelium Vitae - 1995)

Political Responsibility (Reflections on the 1996 elections by the U.S. Catholic Conference 1995)

1996 Militant Taliban Forces Capture Kabul and declare Fundamentalist Islamic state of Afghanistan.

UN Experts and Iraq Officials dismantle a Biological Weapons Factory in Iraq.

Labor Day Statement - 1996

Bishop William S. Skylstad (USCC Chairman on Domestic Policy)

A Decade after Economic Justice for All

(Bishops' statement in commemoration of the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of their 1986 Pastoral letter on economic justice - 1996)

A Catholic Framework for Economic Life

(Bishops' statement listing 10 basic moral principles for economic decision making - 1996)

1997 Kyoto Protocol Agreed when 150 countries sign up at a global warming conference in Kyoto, Japan.

UN FAO announces that 18 million people die annually in the third world from hunger and undernourishment.

The Common Good and the Catholic Church's Social Teaching

(Catholic Bishops' Conference in England and Wales - 1997)

Called to Global Solidarity

(Bishops' statement on global interdependence - 1997)

Labor Day Statement - 1997

Bishop William S. Skylstad

1998 Terrorist Bombing attacks at two US Embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam killing 250 people.

Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement (MSA) is signed between Tobacco Companies and US States becoming the largest civil settlement in United States history.

Sharing Catholic Social Teaching: Challenges and Directions

(U.S. Bishops' statement on Catholic Social Teaching and Catholic education - 1998)

**Faith and Reason, (*Fides et Ratio*)**

Living the Gospel of Life: A Challenge to American Catholics - 1998

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Labor Day Statement - 1998  
Bishop William S. Skylstad

Love Thy Neighbor as Thyself - 1998

Everyday Christianity - 1998

1999 Serbs accelerate ethnic cleansing of Kosovo Albanians leading to a NATO bombing attack.

The human population of the world surpassed six billion.

Impeachment proceedings are brought against President Bill Clinton

A Good Friday Appeal to End the Death Penalty - 4/2/99

Faithful Citizenship - 1999

In All Things Charity - 1999

2000 Control of the Panama Canal joining the Pacific and Atlantic oceans is handed over to Panama after 75 years of US control.

Pope John Paul II visits Israel prayed for forgiveness of the sins of those involved in the Holocaust.

In Aden, Yemen, the USS Cole is badly damaged by two suicide bombers.

Responsibility, Rehabilitation and Restoration - 2000

Labor Day Statement - 2000

2001 Pharmaceutical Companies agree to sell Aids drugs for cost price in Africa, a discount of up to 90% to help the fight against Aids.

The United States invades Afghanistan marking the beginning of the US "War on Terrorism" campaign.

2002 The Euro becomes the official currency of twelve of the European Union's Members.

Restrictions are further loosened for mercy killings and assisted suicide for patients with unbearable, terminal illness in the Netherlands.

A Place at the Table: A Catholic Recommitment to Overcome Poverty and to Respect the Dignity of All God's Children - 11/13/02

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- 2003            The last old-style Volkswagen Beetle rolls off its production line in Puebla, Puebla, Mexico.
- US Interest Rates at 45 year record low of 1% and core inflation rate of 37 year record low 1.3%.
- Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope  
(A Pastoral letter concerning migration - 1/22/03)
- Welcoming the Stranger Among Us: Unity in Diversity  
(A statement of the USCCB on the Pastoral needs of immigrants in the U.S. and a call for a welcoming posture at the parish level - 10/27/03)
- 2004            Facebook is launched as a social networking site only open to students from Harvard.
- The EU undergoes it's largest expansion by accepting 10 new states into the EU Poland, Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Malta, and Cyprus.
- 2005            Hurricane Katrina strikes the Louisiana, Mississippi and Alabama coastal areas.
- Pope John Paul II dies; over 4 million people travel to the Vatican to mourn him.
- A Culture of Life and the Penalty of Death  
(A statement of the USCCB calling for an end to the use of the death penalty - 11/05)
- 2006            North Korea declares it has carried out its first test of a nuclear weapon, becoming the world's 9th Nuclear Power.
- Deus Caritas Est - God is Love**  
(The first encyclical of Pope Benedict XVI signed on 12/25/05; promulgated 1/25/06)
- Letter on the '07 Budget Resolution to Both Budget Committees in Congress March 3, 2006.
- Labor Day 2006: A Labor Day Reflection on Immigration and Work Bishop Nicholas DiMarzio, September 4, 2006.
- 2007            The worlds most efficient electric car the Tesla Roadster shown at car shows prior to full production 2008.
- The US Housing bubble bursts when year on year home prices drop by up to 2 - 15% in areas of the country causing increasing numbers of foreclosures.
- Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, November 2007 UCCB



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### Spe Salvi, (*Saved in Hope*)

November 30, 2007

Labor Day 2007: A Time to Remember; A Time to Recommit Bishop  
Nicolas DiMarzio, Spanish Version / En Español

Forming Conscience for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political  
Action from the UCCB , November 2007 En español

2008 The truce between the Sri Lankan government and Tamil Tiger rebels  
has ended following continued violence.

President Bush and House leaders agree to a \$150 billion stimulus  
package, including rebates for most tax filers.

Labor Day 2008: An American Catholic Tradition Bishop William F.  
Murphy, September 1, 2008 Spanish Version/En Español

2009 The World Health Organization declares H1N1 influenza strain,  
commonly referred to as "swine flu", as a global pandemic.

US Airways Flight 1549 after being struck by a flock of Canada geese  
shortly after takeoff makes a successful Crash landing in the Hudson  
River.

Letter to US Congress on 2009 Budget Bishop William F. Murphy and  
Bishop Howard J. Hubbard, March 26, 2009

Respecting the Just Rights of Workers, *June 2009 UCCB*

Labor Day 2009: The Value of Work Bishop William Murphy September  
7, 2009 Spanish Version/En Español

### **Caritas in Veritate**, (*Charity in Truth*)

June 29, 2009

2010 The Healthcare Reform Bill/Patient Protection and Affordable Care  
Act passes in Congress changing the face of healthcare in the US and  
is signed into law.

The US increases the number of troops stationed in Afghanistan  
hoping to squash the Taliban and Al-Qaeda terrorist groups that  
operate from and in the country.

Labor Day 2010: A New "Social Contract" for Today's "New Things"  
Bishop William Murphy, September 6, 2010

2011 Osama Bin Laden killed in Afghanistan.

Egyptian Revolution of 2011 begins, with a street demonstrations and  
violent clashes in Cairo, Alexandria, and other cities.

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Article on recent conference call "Let's stop Congress from  
Balancing the Budget on the Backs of Poor People" March 1, 2011

Letter to the US Senate on the Continuing Resolution: Put the Poor  
First Bishop Stephen E. Blaire, March 4, 2011

Letter to Super Committee: Treatment Of Jobless, Hungry And Homeless  
Is Moral Measure Of Deficit Reduction Bishop Stephen E. Blaire and  
Bishop Howard J. Hubbard, August 31, 2011

Human Costs and Moral Challenges of a Broken Economy Labor Day  
Statement 2011

A Statement on Poverty in New Jersey by the Catholic Bishops of New  
Jersey November 21, 2011

2012

The European Union imposes an oil embargo on Iran to halt uranium  
enrichment and end Iran's nuclear weapons efforts.

Occupy Wall Street marks its one-year anniversary with a  
demonstration at the New York Stock Exchange.

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