

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMISSION

We gather together each week at St. Therese Parish because we seek Christ's path. We yearn for justice, truth, wisdom and love. We are surrounded by contradictions and conflict along the way. Sometimes we feel overwhelmed by the problems around us.



We need good companions for this journey, a community of conviction to help us persevere, to maintain the sense of urgency without losing sight of the relevance of our call as Christians.

The Social Justice Commission exists to act as leaven for the St. Therese Parish in becoming a more just community and a community for justice.

Our role includes the following intentions:

- *To recognize and encourage existing justice efforts*
 - *To inspire commitment to Gospel values and Catholic Social Teaching*
 - *To challenge norms and assumptions*
 - *To raise questions, surface interest, and educate on issues of justice*
 - *To present opportunities for Christian action*
- To gather communities for justice*

Since the Commission has been in existence, we have called on the parish to focus on a commitment to nonviolence through education, prayer, dialogue and action. The Commission has invited the parish to make an annual vow of nonviolence and has offered opportunities to learn and discuss issues of nonviolence.

We have challenged the parish to become more aware of environmental justice and to learn how our faith calls us to be stewards of all of creation. In collaboration with the Sister Parish Ministry, we have introduced shade grown, fair trade coffee that St. Therese now serves at the coffee hours after mass.

The Commission has called the parish to look to our brothers and sisters in Iraq and learn how the economic sanctions and military actions affect the people of that country.

This is the work of the Social Justice Commission, the Sister Parish Ministry, the Homelessness Ministry, the Conversations on Race Book Group. Please read more about the work of the Social Justice Commission and contact any of the Commissioners to ask questions, get involved and work for justice with your fellow St. Therese parishioners.