



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>For more info and tips on getting involved, visit PovertyUSA.org or PobrezaUSA.org. Longer daily reflections are available at http://bit.ly/USCCBpoverty</p>			<p>1 An annual papal message for the World Day of Peace (Jan. 1) has been released every year since 1968. Read the 2020 message and use these prayers to reflect on its important invitation to all Catholics and people of good will. Take today to also make a resolution for the year that helps work to reduce poverty.</p>	<p>2 The Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) has been working for 50 years to help end poverty by empowering low-income families and educating about the root causes of poverty. Read about the work of the United Workers Association and other groups that receive funding from CCHD.</p>	<p>3 Today's readings remind us that we are all children of God. Solidarity invites us to remember that we are part of one global human family. Join us in Washington, D.C. for the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering on Jan. 25-28 to speak out when human dignity is threatened by racism, poverty, division, and unjust treatment of immigrant families.</p>	<p>4 Today is the feast of St. Elizabeth Ann Seton, the first canonized U.S. citizen and founder of the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph, which serves and educates children living in poverty. Her work laid the foundation for the American Catholic School system. Both her order and Catholic schools continue to further the social mission of the Church to this day.</p>
<p>5 The Gospel reminds us that we are called to root our lives of faith in the authentic love of neighbor. How can you be in solidarity with your brother or sister in need? Read how Catholics at a parish in New Orleans and their sister parish in Nicaragua help each other in times of need. Compassion has no borders.</p>	<p>6 Today is the first day of National Migration Week. Visit the USCCB's Justice for Immigrants website to find National Migration Week resources to educate yourself and your community, including a toolkit and more. Learn how one university is living the call to solidarity with Syrian refugees.</p>	<p>7 Poverty is not a catch-phrase—it is a serious reality that many are living. Our faith invites us to respond to the needs of those who are most vulnerable. How can you better respond to the poor in your community?</p>	<p>8 Ana Chavarin was the 2019 Cardinal Bernardin New Leadership Award recipient for her leadership at the CCHD funded-group Pima County Interfaith as they mobilized migrant families and faith communities to impact the issues that affect them. How can you get involved in your parish's efforts to address poverty?</p>	<p>9 Work is much more than simply earning a living; it is a way of using our gifts to participate in God's creation. We are called to uphold the dignity and rights of workers including just wages, humane conditions, respectful treatment, etc. How can you help ensure workers' rights and dignity are respected?</p>	<p>10 The CCHD Creating on the Margins helps youth respond to poverty. Watch these films and reflect on these pieces of art from a previous year's contest which focus on the plight of migrants and refugees. Learn more about this year's contest and see who you can invite to participate.</p>	<p>11 Today is National Human Trafficking Awareness Day. There are many children, women, and men being trafficked in the world today. Use this film to learn about the systemic problems that lead to trafficking. Find out about your slavery footprint and learn about how you can make an impact by purchasing fair trade products.</p>

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<p>12 Through Baptism, we share in Christ’s prophetic mission as people of God “<i>to bring glad tidings to the poor...proclaim liberty to captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free</i>” (Lk 4:18). How can you live out your baptismal call to advocate for and with persons in poverty locally and globally?</p>	<p>13 When someone experiences poverty, their basic rights to clean water, food, housing, employment, and vital healthcare are violated. With rights comes the duty to protect them. Learn more about our Rights and Responsibilities.</p>	<p>14 The church teaches that every person has a right and a duty to participate in society, seeking together the common good and well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. What are you doing in your family and community to encourage others to participate, especially in the work to address the systems and structures that keep people in poverty?</p>	<p>15 Our faith calls us to care for God’s creation and help poor countries and communities adapt to the effects of climate change. Read and reflect upon this story about the connection between poverty and climate change in one Filipino community. What can you do at home and in your parish community to better care for God’s creation?</p>	<p>16 We are called to lift up and support those who are vulnerable as they seek change in their communities. A key element of breaking the cycle of poverty is empowering communities through subsidiarity and supporting their work through solidarity. Learn more about one organization that empowers community members in South Texas.</p>	<p>17 The Two Feet of Love in Action are two unique but complementary ways to fight poverty. Watch this video about how one foot is social justice—eliminating root causes of poverty, and the second is charitable works—responding to immediate needs. Search for a local organization you can join and learn about the current policies affecting persons in poverty.</p>	<p>18 Today begins the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, celebrated each year on January 18-25. The 2020 theme is “<i>They Showed Us Unusual Kindness</i>” (Acts 28:2). Chosen by the Christian community from the churches in Malta and Gozo (Christians Together in Malta), the theme invites Christians to ask: are we indifferent to the struggles many migrants face or do we show “unusual kindness” and act as witnesses to God’s loving providence to all people?</p>
<p>19 Today, reflect on the role of our civil leaders and their obligations to implement just policies for the common good. A basic moral test for society is how our most vulnerable members are faring. Learn about how you can promote the common good by visiting USCCB’s Action Center. Say a prayer to confront global poverty.</p>	<p>20 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. fought tirelessly to eliminate injustice and segregation. He understood that eliminating poverty is not simply a hand-out; it is restoring the dignity all persons deserve. Learn about—and join—Catholics in the work to address the evil of racism and end racial injustice in our communities.</p>	<p>21 Venerable Fr. Augustus Tolton was the first African American priest in the U.S. and dedicated himself to his parishioners, many of whom were living in poverty. Learn more about Fr. Tolton and other inspiring holy men and women who worked courageously to address racism in their communities.</p>	<p>22 Today is the Day of Prayer for the Legal Protection of Unborn Children. Read about how our call to create a culture of life is tied to our call to empower those living in poverty. Participate in this day through prayer or events offered by your diocese to observe the anniversary of <i>Roe v. Wade</i>.</p>	<p>23 Throughout our lives, God accompanies us. In a very special way, God is close to those who suffer and are marginalized. Watch this video and reflect: What priority do those who experience poverty have in my heart?</p>	<p>24 Poverty disproportionately impacts the elderly. Read about how CCHD funded organizations such as the Massachusetts Senior Action Council have organized around issues such as healthcare, transportation, and voter engagement that are often challenging for elderly to access, trapping them in a cycle of poverty.</p>	<p>25 Many face barriers to breaking the cycle of poverty due to discrimination or racism. Read and reflect on Open Wide Our Hearts, the bishops’ new pastoral letter against racism. How is this letter calling you to conversion? Gift this new children’s book, which was inspired by the pastoral letter, to kids in your life.</p>
<p>26 How does the Gospel require us to respond to poverty in our communities? What can you do to proclaim the good news of God’s love today? Read about how parishes in Baltimore are publicly proclaiming Christ’s message of peace and justice.</p>	<p>27 Read about Living Hope: A Voice for the Vulnerable. CCHD provides funds to help Living Hope empower members of the disability community. They work to not only provide wheelchairs, safety, and community to people experiencing poverty and disability, but they also work to give them a voice and place in society.</p>	<p>28 “Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation and promotion of the poor” (Evangeliij Gaudium no. 187). Pray for the grace to understand how God is calling you to be an instrument for the common good.</p>	<p>29 “In service of the poor, there is no room for competition. Rather, we should humbly recognize that the Spirit is the source of our actions that reveal God’s closeness and his answer to our prayers.” (Pope Francis) Say a prayer that the Holy Spirit will lead you to be of service to the poor.</p>	<p>30 We are called to listen to the needs of victims and uphold the dignity of offenders through practicing restorative justice and opposing the death penalty. How can you show God’s love and mercy to those in need of healing and hope?</p>	<p>31 Keep the conversation about poverty going with your family, in your parish, and neighborhood by signing up to receive our newsletter Notes for Neighbors and other communications from the Department of Justice Peace and Human Development.</p>	