**Natural Law and Social Justice**

**What is Natural Law?**

* Natural law is a **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** code that God wants **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** to abide by.
* Natural law refers to all of the “**\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** rights and duties” God gave humans.
* According to St. Thomas **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**, all humans were born with the ability to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the “primary principles of natural law.”
* St. Paul taught that the principles of natural law were written in our **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

**How do we Respect Natural Law?**

* We can **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** God’s expectations for us through listening to our **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (God’s voice within us).
* For example, when trying to foster **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** relationships, we can look no further than our conscience for guidance.
* We are all **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** beings.
* We can use our ability to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** to comprehend God’s goals for us.

**Natural Law and Justice**

* Justice is an important **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** (good habit) that works hand in hand with **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** law.
* Justice involves striving to ensure the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** as well as **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.
* When we work towards justice, we are **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** the natural law that God established.
* Although we have knowledge of God’s laws, we need to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** our ability to **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and **\_\_\_\_\_\_** justice.

**What are the Catholic Social Teachings?**

* The Catholic social teachings are a “rich treasure of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** about building a **\_\_\_\_\_\_** society and living lives of holiness amidst the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of modern society.”
* The Catholic Church recognizes **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** social teachings.
* We are all called to work towards **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** these teachings in our **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.

**The 7 Social Teachings of the Church**

1. Human dignity
2. Stewardship
3. Preferential option for the poor
4. Common good
5. Dignity of work and the rights of workers
6. Right and responsibilities
7. Call to family, community, and participation

**Human Dignity**

* The Church also calls us to remember the principle of human **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**.
* The Church teaches that **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** life has dignity from the moment of **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** until death.
* Every life is **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** and should be respected at **\_\_\_\_\_** times.
* We are called to make an extra effort to respect the dignity of the poor.

**The Preferential Option for the Poor**

* Jesus tells us that **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** with the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** is solidarity with **\_\_\_\_\_\_**.
* “As you did it to the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** of these who are members of my family, you did it to **\_\_\_\_**” – Jesus, Matthew 25: 40.
* God’s special closeness with the poor is known as the **\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** option for the poor.
* The **\_\_\_\_\_\_** do **\_\_\_\_\_** share in God’s closeness with the poor.

**How can you respect human dignity and the poor in your community?**

\*List your ideas here: