

A SOCIAL MINISTRY ASSESSMENT TOOL FOR PARISH RLSJ COMMITTEES

After each statement below, rate your parish on its current progress in integrating the Church's social mission into various aspects of parish life. Please use the given scale.

- 5 Outstanding
- 4 Above Average
- 3 Adequate
- 2 Needs Improvement
- 1 Does Not Exist

Prayer and Worship

SECTION I

	RATING
1. The musical repertoire of parish Masses includes songs that reflect social issues and the call to justice.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The general intercessions of the Liturgy consistently reflect the needs of the community and the people's responsibility to be agents of the Gospel of Life.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. All participants in worship are made to feel welcome and included.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. A variety of people are represented among liturgical ministries.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The environment is barrier-free: visually, audibly, and for mobility.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. The parish offers Holy Hours, devotions, etc. that relate to social issues.	<input type="checkbox"/>
SECTION I SUBTOTAL	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments:

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Preaching

SECTION II

	RATING
1. The focus of homilies is on social responsibilities as well as an individual relationship with God.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Homilists regularly make connections between the readings of the day and principles from Catholic social teaching (human dignity, common good, rights and responsibilities, option for the poor, dignity of work, solidarity)	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Social action opportunities (advocacy campaigns, service projects) are regularly referred to in homilies as vehicles for acting on our faith.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Homilists regularly make connections to social issues on appropriate dates such as Labor Day, Jan. 22 Anniversary of Roe v Wade, Respect Life Sunday, Oct. 4 Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi, etc., and integrates them into Liturgies.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Homilists invite/challenge parishioners to be active in the public arena as an extension of their participation in worship.	<input type="checkbox"/>
SECTION II SUBTOTAL	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Religious Education

SECTION III

	RATING
1. Catholic Social Teaching is integrated on a regular basis into all levels of parish religious education in school and parish programs.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Parish Catechists and Catholic School teachers "seize the teachable moment" by celebrating in the classroom national and Church observances that relate to the Church's social mission.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Parishioners are offered a variety of adult education experiences that focus on Catholic Social Teaching, with resources provided by the parish.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Education events include an invitation to action.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The youth ministry program offers both hands-on volunteering opportunities and social justice activities for youth to assist and learn from the poor.	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. An effort is made to educate parishioners in these charitable ministry activities about the need to address the root causes of social problems by working for justice and changing systems.	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Persons with disabilities are included in all religious education programs including Sacramental preparation classes.	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION III SUBTOTAL

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Family & Work Life

SECTION IV

- | | RATING |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. The parish is "family friendly": policies and programs accommodate the needs of all kinds of families, including day care, and are inclusive of all age groups. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Single-parent families and other non-traditional families are welcomed. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Helps parishioners examine the connections between their daily work and their faith lives. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. The parish encourages members to be involved in unions, business and professional associations, community groups, and political organizations. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. The parish encourages members to be active citizens through voter registration drives and by offering timely guidance on the Church's stand on social issues. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. Parishioners understand that God's justice is to be reflected in how they invest/spend money, how they parent, and how they carry out their responsibilities in the workplace. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SECTION IV SUBTOTAL

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Charity & Outreach

SECTION V

	RATING
1. Parish volunteers treat the poor and marginalized with dignity and respect when serving them; interacting with them to hear their stories/histories and find common concerns.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. The parish has volunteer opportunities that are appropriate for different age groups (youth, adults, retirees, etc.).	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. If there is a sister parish relationship, the partnership is based on mutuality and both parishes give and receive as part of the partnership.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. The parish actively participates in diocesan efforts that promote charity and justice such as the Lord's Diner, ministries of Catholic Charities, Warming Souls for the homeless, The Apostle Build with Habitat for Humanity, the March for Life, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. The parish supports an active Society of St. Vincent de Paul ministry.	<input type="checkbox"/>

SECTION V SUBTOTAL

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Citizenship

SECTION VI

- | | RATING |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. The parish offers opportunities to learn about national social issues and the moral dimensions of public policy that affect the poor and vulnerable. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The parish regularly makes available information on local, national and international advocacy groups that advocate on behalf of the poor and vulnerable. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. The parish makes a special effort with high school youth to encourage first-time voting and responsible consideration of social issues in the light of Catholic Social Teaching | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. The parish makes policy advocacy an easy activity, through the letter writing parties, action alerts, faxes, etc. right after or between Masses. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SECTION VI SUBTOTAL

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Beyond Parish Boundaries

SECTION VII

- | | RATING |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. The parish recognizes the need to do social action at the local, state, national and international levels and shares its financial resources in these areas. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The pastor and parish staff actively work to stretch parishioners to reflect on their responsibilities to brothers and sisters beyond the parish boundaries. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Youth and adults are challenged to get involved in global awareness activities such as Society for the Propagation of the Faith (SPF), Holy Childhood Association (HCA), and Operation Rice Bowl (ORB). | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Global issues (third-world debt, rain forest depletion, and ethnic wars) are regularly included in various ministry programs of the parish. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. If a global sister parish exists, the partnership is based on mutuality and both parishes give and receive as part of the partnership. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. The parish actively collaborates with the Diocesan Respect Life and Social Justice Office and the Kansas Catholic Conference. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SECTION II SUBTOTAL

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Internal Policies & Practices

SECTION VIII

- | | RATING |
|---|--------------------------|
| 1. The parish mission statement and goals reflect human dignity as integral to the Catholic faith and parish life. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2. Employment policies, compensation, and due process are applied to parish/school employees in a way that reflects the Church's teaching about human dignity, rights, and justice. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3. Parish grounds and property are maintained in environmentally sensitive ways. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4. Decision-making and conflict resolution regularly occur in ways that respect differences of opinion and the value of group process. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 5. The parish regularly allocates a designated percentage of its funds to both direct service (charity) and long-term social change (justice) organizations. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 6. The parish has in place a regular process to evaluate its inclusivity, especially in regard to racial minorities and low-income families, persons with disabilities, and is continually challenging itself to reflect the oneness of God's creation. | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 7. The parish actively encourages persons with disabilities to be heard and to participate in leadership roles. | <input type="checkbox"/> |

SECTION IX SUBTOTAL

Comments: