

# **The Catholic Campaign for Human Development and the Social Ministry Convocation: A Look Back**

IF YOU WANT PEACE, WORK FOR JUSTICE ..... Pope Paul VI

Founded in 1970 by the Catholic Bishops of the United States, the Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) was given a two-pronged charge:

- To help groups of poverty-level-income people help themselves.
- To educate our American Catholic people in understanding, living and promoting the Gospel-based principles of Catholic social justice teachings.

Every Bishop was asked to form a diocesan committee to carry out these charges and each committee would be moderated by a diocesan director of the local CCHD. For 33 years, thousands of self-help groups have received grants from both the national and local CCHD committees

- for community organizing
- creating job opportunities
- economic development projects

In the Archdiocese of Baltimore our Catholic parishioners have been very generous in the annual pre-Thanksgiving collections to fund this grant awarding work of the CCHD. In November 2020, the total collection was nearly \$94,560. In August of 2021, 8 groups were awarded shares in the CCHD grants totaling \$290,000.

After the initial years of CCHD in Baltimore, the local director and volunteer committee members sensed that the task of education for social justice required the combined efforts of parish staffs and school leadership working in unity with other diocesan agencies and organizations. The next step brought together:

- Sister Rosemary Dilli, SSND (then of Catholic Charities)
- Fr. Joe Muth
- Fr. Ed Kenny
- Fr. William Burke (the previous local CCHD diocesan director)

Thus, was conceived the idea of an annual SOCIAL MINISTRY CONVOCATION, a unified effort of:

- CCHD
- Catholic Charities
- St. Vincent de Paul Society
- Pax Christi of Baltimore
- Justice and Peace Commission
- Director of the “Called to Serve” process, Jim Sherer

Archbishop William D. Borders enthusiastically approved and endorsed this opportunity to bring together parish leadership and agency representatives to be thanked, encouraged and to grow in social justice education. Bishop P. Francis Murphy gave his wholehearted support and suggested that St. Mary’s Seminary and University in Baltimore might serve as the best site. The seminary rector, Very Reverend Robert Leavitt, SS, agreed and the date was set for the first Social Ministry Convocation on Saturday, March 22, 1980.

The early years were marked by the celebration of the Eucharistic liturgy as the setting and context for the day’s keynote address, workshops and general group discussion. The attendance was always gratifying for a

full day on a Saturday, from 250 to over 400 participants. Later, an effort to increase parish participation even more so brought about the parish social ministry recognition awards ceremony. Since his untimely death the awards have been named the Bishop P. Francis Murphy Social Ministry Awards.

An extension of the local CCHD education sub-committee, the Social Ministry Convocation Planning Committee still includes representatives from the above-named offices with the addition today of representatives from the offices of:

- Hispanic Catholic ministries
- African American Catholic ministries
- Catholic Relief Services
- Beyond the Boundaries
- P. Francis Murphy Justice and Peace Initiative

It is a great joy to reflect and give thanks to all who brought their gifts and talents to the convocations beginning in March of 1980. Each program had a theme and the keynote speaker set the stage for the workshops and discussions. Of joyful memory, journey back with us over these years of grace and growth:

- 1980            ***Social Ministry: A Vision for the 80's***  
Msgr. John Egan, Notre Dame University, Center for Pastoral and Social Concerns
- 1981            ***Parish Social Ministry: An Essential Component, A Sign of Hope***  
Bishop John McCarthy Galveston-Houston
- 1982            ***The Economy and The Poor: Strategies for Survival***  
Rev. Robert F. Drinan, S.J., Dean, Georgetown University Law School
- 1983            ***Our Eucharist, Our Parish, Our World***  
Rev. John C. Haughey, S.J. (for Monika Hellwig), Woodstock Theological Center
- 1984 (5<sup>th</sup>)      ***Spirituality for Social Ministry***  
Bishop Emerson J. Moore, DD, Auxiliary Bishop of New York
- 1985            ***Biblical and Christian View of Economic Life***  
Monika K. Hellwig, PhD. Georgetown University
- 1986            ***Christian Economic Values: Challenge to American Culture and Society***  
Harry A. Fagan, National Pastoral Life Center, NYC
- 1987            ***The Parish on Mission***  
Naomi Tutu Seavers, The Challenge of Freedom and Justice in Our Changing World  
Joseph Holland, Director, Pallotine Institute for Lay Leadership and Apostolic Research
- 1988            ***Social Justice: Loving the God You Can See***  
Rev. Richard Rohr, OFM, Center for Action and Contemplation Albuquerque, New Mexico

- 1989 (10<sup>th</sup>) ***Social Justice: Worship Is Compassion***  
Rev. Richard Fragomeni, New York, Chicago Theological Union
- 1990 ***Social Justice: O Give Me A Home***  
Rev. Joseph J. Gallagher, Baltimore, Former Archivist and Catholic Review Editor
- 1991 ***That They May Have Live... More Abundantly***  
Rev. Joseph Hacala, SJ, Executive Director, National CCHD
- 1992 ***From Charity to Justice: Home, Parish, Community***  
Colman McCarthy, Washington Post Writer, Speaker/Advocate for Justice
- 1993 ***A Community of Strangers: Our Forgotten Americans***  
Diana Hayes, PhD, STD, Georgetown University
- 1994 (15<sup>th</sup>) ***Building Communities of Hope Through Justice***  
Rev. Philip Murnion, Director, National Pastoral Life Center, NYC
- 1995 ***The Word of God: Building and Renewing Communities of Hope***  
Megan McKenna, PhD, Loyola University, Chicago
- 1996 ***Moving Faith Into Action: Rebuilding Communities of Hope***  
Msgr. William J. Linder, Founder, New Community Corp., Newark, NJ
- 1997 ***Common Ground: Room at the Table for All***  
Louise Wilmot (USN, Ret'd Admiral), Asst. Director Catholic Relief Services
- 1998 ***If You Want Peace, Work For Justice***  
Most Rev. Walter Sullivan, Bishop of Richmond, Virginia
- 1999 (20<sup>th</sup>) ***Who Is Welcome At The Table?***  
Donald Hutchinson, President, Greater Baltimore Committee,  
Former Baltimore County Executive
- 2000 ***The Prophetic Parish: Renewing the Vision***  
Alexie Torres, Director, Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice, NY
- 2001 ***Building Bridges: Many Faces in God's House***  
James Lewis, Delaware Episcopal Diocese, Delmarva Poultry Justice Alliance
- 2002 ***Catholic Social Teaching: Sinking the Roots Deeper***  
Rev. Brian Hehir, Catholic Charities USA  
Jack Jezreel, Founder, JustFaith
- 2003 ***40 Years Later: Pacem in Terris and Martin Luther King's March on Washington***  
Maggie Fogarty, Social Justice Chairperson Manchester, New Hampshire

- 2004 (25<sup>th</sup>) ***Breaking Cycles – Building Circles***  
Dr. Patricia Mische, Global Education Assoc.  
Jack Jezreel, Founder, JustFaith
- 2005 ***Brothers and Sisters to Us: A Prophetic Call to End Racism***  
Rev. Bryan Massingale, S.T.D., Moral Theologian, Marquette University  
Marie Dennis, Director of the Maryknoll Office of Global Concerns,  
Vice President of Pax Christi International
- 2006 ***Economic Justice For All (20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Us Bishops Pastoral Letter)***  
Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez-Maradiaga of Honduras
- 2007 ***The Prophetic Church: Marching Toward Practical Solutions***  
Dr. Gina Hens Piazza-Professor of Biblical Studies, Berkeley  
Leo Anchondo, Justice for Immigrants Campaign, USCCB
- 2008 ***Building For Peace in a Violent World***  
Rev. John Donahue, S.J., Biblical Theologian  
Christine Tucker, Catholic Relief Services
- 2009 (30<sup>th</sup>) ***Building For Peace : The Journey Continues***  
Rev. Gregory Boyle, S.J.: Director/Founder Homeboys/girls Industres, Los Angeles, CA  
Padre Luigi Zanotto, MCCJ
- 2010 ***Peace Poverty and Mother Earth***  
Sr. Simone Campbell, SSS, Executive Director of NETWORK
- 2011 ***Economic Justice for All: A Call to Discipleship in Troubled Times***  
Rev. John Donahue, S.J., Biblical Theologian
- 2012 ***Reading the Signs of the Times: Catholic Social Teaching in Action Today***  
Janine Carreiro, 2010 CCHD Cardinal Bernardin New Leadership Award Recipient
- 2013 ***The Church in the Modern World: 50 years after Vatican II***  
Mark K. Shriver, Senior Vice President, SAVE THE CHILDREN
- 2014 (35<sup>th</sup>) ***Care for the Earth/Care for the Poor - Listening to Pope Francis***  
Fr. Jacek Orzechowski, OFM
- 2015 ***The Joy of the Gospel: The Call to Celebrate & to Serve***  
Sr. Patricia Chappelle, SNDdeN, Executive Director: Pax Christi USA
- 2016 ***Care for our Common Home***  
Dr. Carolyn Woo President and CEO of Catholic Relief Services
- 2017 ***Racism and Economic Justice***  
Rev. Andrew Connors. Senior Pastor, Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church and  
Co-Chair, Baltimoreans United for Leadership Development
- 2018 ***Peace and Justice NOW***  
Deacon Curtis Turner, Ed.D, Principal St. Frances Academy

- 2019 (40<sup>th</sup>) ***Seek Justice . Win Peace***  
Ana Grande, Organizing Director, Monsignor Oscar Romero Center, Los Angeles
- 2020 ***Who is My Neighbor: Confronting a culture of Fear***  
Ansel Augustine, D.Min. Black Catholic Studies, Xavier University, New Orleans
- 2021 ***Persistence in the March Toward Justice***  
Ashley Morris, Associate Director Intercultural Office of the Archdiocese of Atlanta

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