

# **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, 2003, the total collection was nearly \$212,000. In August of 2003, 13 groups were awarded shares in the CCHD grants totaling \$167,000.

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 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 on, 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

As we happily mark our 25 Convocation, 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	<i>Social Ministry: A Vision for the 80's</i>	Msgr. John Egan, Notre Dame University Center for Pastoral and Social Concerns
1981	<i>Parish Social Ministry: An Essential Component, A Sign of Hope</i>	Bishop John McCarthy Galveston-Houston
1982	<i>The Economy and The Poor: Strategies for Survival</i>	Rev. Robert F. Drinan, S.J., Dean Georgetown University Law School
1983	<i>Our Eucharist, Our Parish, Our World</i>	Rev. John C. Haughey, S.J. (for Monika Hellwig) Woodstock Theological Center
1984 (5 <sup>th</sup> )	<i>Spirituality for Social Ministry</i>	Bishop Emerson J. Moore, DD, Auxiliary Bishop of New York
1985	<i>Biblical and Christian View of Economic Life</i>	Monika K. Hellwig, PhD Georgetown University
1986	<i>Christian Economic Values: Challenge to American Culture and Society</i>	Harry A. Fagan National Pastoral Life Center, NYC
1987	<i>The Parish on Mission:</i>	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	<i>Social Justice: Loving the God You Can See</i>	Rev. Richard Rohr, OFM Center for Action and Contemplation Albuquerque, New Mexico
1989 (10 <sup>th</sup> )	<i>Social Justice: Worship Is Compassion</i>	Rev. Richard Fragomeni, New York Chicago Theological Union

1990	<i>Social Justice: O Give Me A Home</i>	Rev. Joseph J. Gallagher, Baltimore Former Archivist and Catholic Review Editor
1991	<i>That They May Have Live... More Abundantly</i>	Rev. Joseph Hacala, SJ Executive Director, National CCHD
1992	<i>From Charity to Justice: Home, Parish, Community</i>	Colman McCarthy Washington Post Writer, Speaker/Advocate for Justice
1993	<i>A Community of Strangers: Our Forgotten Americans</i>	Diana Hayes, PhD, STD Georgetown University
1994 (15 <sup>th</sup> )	<i>Building Communities of Hope Through Justice</i>	Rev. Philip Murnion, Director National Pastoral Life Center, NYC
1995	<i>The Word of God: Building and Renewing Communities of Hope</i>	Megan McKenna, PhD Loyola University, Chicago
1996	<i>Moving Faith Into Action: Rebuilding Communities of Hope</i>	Msgr. William J. Linder, Founder New Community Corp., Newark, NJ
1997	<i>Common Ground: Room at the Table for All</i>	Louise Wilmot (USN, Ret'd Admiral) Asst. Director Catholic Relief Services
1998	<i>If You Want Peace, Work For Justice</i>	Most Rev. Walter Sullivan Bishop of Richmond, Virginia
1999 (20 <sup>th</sup> )	<i>Who Is Welcome At The Table?</i>	Donald Hutchinson, President, Greater Baltimore Committee; former Baltimore County Executive
2000	<i>The Prophetic Parish: Renewing the Vision</i>	Alexie Torres, Director Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice, NY
2001	<i>Building Bridges: Many Faces in God's House</i>	James Lewis, Delaware Episcopal Diocese; Delmarva Poultry Justice Alliance
2002	<i>Catholic Social Teaching: Sinking the Roots Deeper</i>	Rev. Brian Hehir, Catholic Charities USA; Jack Jezreel, Founder, JustFaith
2003	<i>40 Years Later: Pacem in Terris and Martin Luther King's March on Washington</i>	Maggie Fogarty, Social Justice Chairperson Manchester, New Hampshire
2004 (25 <sup>th</sup> )	<i>Breaking Cycles – Building Circles</i>	Dr. Patricia Mische, Global Education Assoc. Jack Jezreel, Founder, JustFaith
2005	<i>Brothers and Sisters to Us: A Prophetic Call to End Racism</i>	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	<i>Economic Justice For All (20th Anniversary of Us Bishops Pastoral Letter)</i>	Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez-Maradiaga of Honduras
2007	<i>The Prophetic Church : Marching Toward Practical Solutions</i>	Dr. Gina Hens Piazza-Professor of Biblical Studies, Berkeley Leo Anchondo , Justice for Immigrants Campaign, USCCB
2008	<i>Building For Peace in a Violent World</i>	Rev. John Donahue, S.J., Biblical Theogian Christine Tucker, Catholic Relief Services
2009 (30 <sup>th</sup> )	<i>Building For Peace : The Journey Continues</i>	Rev. Gregory Boyle, S.J. : Director/Founder Homeboys/girls Industres, Los Angeles, CA Padre Luigi Zanotto, MCCJ

The Catholic Campaign for Human Development and all participants of the Social Ministry Planning Committee thank you for your support, your trust and the opportunity to grow and serve together in the work of Jesus Christ!

Msgr. William Burke  
March 2009