

Weekly Elements

Each week a unique element is brought up near the altar to provide a visual enhancement of our Lenten Social Justice Project and is attributed to a particular Catholic social teaching. The information below describes each element and its importance.

March 8/9 Life and Dignity of the Human Person – Nourishment – basket of food

Every Lent, we make a commitment to live out our faith through prayer, fasting and charity. This weekend we commit to Grow in Christ through our Lenten Social Justice Project with Partners for Our Communities and Faith Feeds Food Pantry. Both organizations, located in Palatine's Community Resource Center, recognize the Life and Dignity of the Human Person, which is the first and most basic Catholic social teaching.

We bring forth this bowl of food signifying the importance of Faith Feeds Food Pantry serving approximately 1,700 individuals a week through the Pantry on Rand Rd and the Mobile Food Pantry. An individual cannot grow and develop without proper nutrition, which is a basic human need. Unfortunately, food insecurity is growing in our area due to a steady rise in food prices.

Holy Family is a proud partner of the Faith Feeds Food Pantry. Join us next weekend for our monthly food drive and help us feed the body and spirit of our community. Food items needed are listed on our website.

The seed of God is in each of us. Let us cultivate this seed and give it nourishment so we can grow and help to nourish others, especially those who live in poverty and experience food insecurity. By supporting Faith Feeds Food Pantry, we extend Christ's love and compassion to our neighbors in need.

March 15/16

Preferential Treatment of the Poor- Health – blood pressure monitor and stethoscope

Every Lent, we make a commitment to live out our faith through prayer, fasting and charity. This weekend we commit to Grow in Christ through our Lenten Social Justice Project with Partners for Our Communities and Faith Feeds Food Pantry. Both organizations, located in Palatine's Community Resource Center, place emphasis on Catholic social teaching and recognize the importance of Options for the Poor and Vulnerable.

We bring forth this medical equipment signifying the importance of maintaining good health. Poverty can significantly impact both the physical and mental health of adults and children, leading to increased risks for chronic diseases, developmental delays, nutritional deficiencies, and mental health issues like depression and anxiety, primarily due to the constant stress of managing limited resources and lack of access to quality healthcare. Partners for Our Communities offers access to a community nurse, health workers and mental health support.

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March 22/23

Rights and Responsibilities – Education – stack of books

Every Lent, we make a commitment to live out our faith through prayer, fasting and charity. This weekend we commit to Grow in Christ through our Lenten Social Justice Project with Partners for Our Communities and Faith Feeds Food Pantry. Both organizations, located in Palatine's Community Resource Center, place emphasis on Catholic social teaching and the importance of recognizing our Rights as well as our Responsibilities as participants in society.

We bring forth these books of knowledge. Education is the surest way to lift someone out of poverty. We all have a right to receive a quality education and a responsibility to make education available to those living in areas of limited resources and financial means. Partners for Our Communities offer learning labs, Harper certificate programs, bilingual outreach and a branch of Palatine's public library to make the seeds of knowledge accessible. On-site day care allows parents to attend classes knowing their child is well cared for.

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March 29/30

Call to Family, Community and Participation – blanket

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We bring forth this blanket representing the wrap-around services offered by Partners for Our Communities. Wraparound services are comprehensive, holistic support systems designed to meet the diverse needs of individuals and families facing poverty, homelessness, or other vulnerabilities. These services integrate healthcare, housing, education, employment, mental health support, and social services to provide a coordinated approach that fosters stability and long-term well-being.

Wraparound services play a crucial role in breaking the cycle of poverty. By addressing the root causes of hardship and equipping individuals with the tools they need to thrive, these services contribute to healthier communities, economic stability, and a more equitable society.

By supporting Partners in Our Communities and Faith Feeds Food Pantry, we extend Christ's love and compassion to our neighbors in need and we all GROW in the process.

April 5/6

Solidarity – We are one human family – Globe

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We bring forth this globe recognizing that we are all one human family, no matter our national, racial, ethnic, economic, and ideological differences. Partners for Our Communities, including Faith Feeds Food Pantry, serves people coming from over 80 different countries around the world while accumulating over 120,000 client interactions over the course of a year.

Disparities in wealth, healthcare, education, and resources exist worldwide. Partners for Our Communities has a broad reach which can bridge gaps by providing essential services, advocating for marginalized groups, and ensuring equitable access to opportunities. Rather than imposing external solutions, Partners for Our Communities works with local organizations, empowering communities to develop sustainable solutions that address their unique challenges. This fosters self-reliance and long-term stability.

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