



PEACE & SOCIAL JUSTICE
How Are We Tested?
Options for the Poor and Vulnerable

“The true moral fiber of any society is how it treats its weakest members.

(Gerard Thomas Straub)

“We do not fully welcome Christ if we are not ready to welcome the poor person in whom He identified Himself.”

(Raniero Cantalamessa OFM, Cap.)

- Each year, more than 8 million people around the world die for no other reason other than they are too poor to stay alive.
- Over 1 billion people—1 in 6 people around the world—live in extreme poverty, defined as living on less than \$1 per day.
- More than 800 million go hungry each day.
- Over 100 children 13 and under cannot go to school.

Jesus said, “When I was hungry, you gave me to eat. What you do to the least of my brethren, you do to me.” Yet, a child of God, one in whom Christ identified Himself, dies every 3 seconds due to hunger and preventable disease. 20 human beings have died in the minute it took to read this column. Respect life! Act now!

A Prayer: Loving Creator, we ask for wholeness. Do not allow fear, ignorance or pride to limit the action of your Spirit, nor allow mere custom to prevent the divine creativity within us from bearing fruit. We ask for the insight to understand the needs of people today, that we might grasp the complexity of the situations that face us, and the absolute simplicity of human need: the poor have a right to hear and experience the Gospel, the hungry a right to food and drink, the oppressed a right to freedom. Amen.

The Peace & Social Justice Committee
Nora Jackson, Director: 718-2158
Next Meeting: 10/27/05; 7:00-9:30 pm
Room 227, Ministry Center