

THE TABLET *jr.*

Options for the Poor and Vulnerable

The Tablet Jr. is edited by CTN, the educational services department of DeSales Media Group.



Teaching Guide Vol. 4; Issue 2

Each month has a specific theme tied to Catholic social teaching. The themes of Catholic Social Teaching can be integrated into many subjects. This Instructional Guide is full of resources to help you connect the stories and features to your lesson plans.

This month's edition is created by the student journalists of Visitation Catholic Academy.



"A portion of the harvest is set aside for the poor and the stranger."
-Leviticus 19:9-10



Keeping Children Warm This Christmas Season



Read the Tablet Jr. article as a class.

Essential Question: What does it mean to experience poverty?

Discovery Education Video: [Feature Book: Boxes for Katje](#)

Video Description: Through acts of kindness and generosity, big and small, we can make a difference to people in need. Elizabeth Tuke reads Boxes by Katje by Candace Fleming.

Activities

- [Sesame Street: Kindness Holiday \(K-2\)](#)
 - ◆ [Kindness Holiday | Mini-Lesson](#)
 - ◆ [Key Stages of Kindness Lessons \(ages 5-7\)](#)
- [YouTube: Kindness is my superpower \(3-8\)](#)
 - ◆ [Digging Deeper](#)
 - ◆ [Taxi Driver gets Help from Stranger](#)
- [Discovery Education: Fundraising for People in Poverty](#)
 - ◆ [Kindness Studio Board](#)
 - ◆ [Key Stages of Kindness Lessons](#)

Additional Resources Continued

Reflection Questions can be presented in different ways depending on grade level and ability. Platforms that can be used are Padlet and Jamboard.

Reflection Questions:

- 1) How many children in the U.S. live in families with low incomes?
- 2) Are some children and families at greater risk for economic hardship than others?
- 3) What are the effects of economic hardship on children?

Additional Resources

- [Discovery Education: Sponsors Provide a Lifeline for Impoverished Ethiopians](#)
 - ◆ [Write a narrative](#) about a modern act of charity
 - ◆ [Prayer Journal](#)
- [Discovery Education: The Tip of a Lifetime](#)
 - ◆ [Picture this](#)

Hunger in Ukraine: A Humanitarian Effort



Read the Tablet Jr. article as a class.

Essential Question: How is poverty measured in the United States?

Discovery Education Video: [The Science of Generosity](#)

Video Description: Research in neuroscience has offered evidence that generosity, helping and being kind to others, is intrinsically rewarding. Being kind creates a cycle that promotes widespread happiness and altruism.

Activities

- [Discovery Education: World Poverty](#)
 - ◆ Research the [World Vision Website](#) and create a plan about how your school can sponsor a child
 - ◆ The Matthew 25 [Challenge](#)
- [NEWSELA: South Carolina teen raises \\$70,000 for community by organizing basketball games](#)
 - ◆ Read the article & [summarize the reading](#)
 - ◆ [Compare & contrast 1 John & this month's Social Justice Theme](#)
- [YouTube: Why Should I Help Read Aloud](#)
 - ◆ [Extension Activity](#)

Additional Resources Continued

Reflection Questions can be presented in different ways depending on grade level and ability. Platforms that can be used are Padlet and Jamboard.

Reflection Questions:

- 1) Why is there so much economic hardship in a country as wealthy as the U.S.?
- 2) Why should Americans care about family economic hardship?
- 3) What can be done to increase economic security for America's children and families?

Additional Resources

- [But Why Podcast](#): Why is the heart a symbol of love?
 - ◆ [Learning Guides](#)
 - ◆ [Kindness Graph](#)
 - ◆ [Kindness board game](#)
- St. Oscar Romeo
 - ◆ [YouTube: St. Oscar Romero](#)
 - ◆ [Google Slides Presentation](#)

God's Call To Help Those In Need



Read the Tablet Jr. article as a class.

Essential Question: How accurate are commonly held stereotypes about poverty?

Discovery Education Video: [Brother Francis: Following in His Footsteps](#)

Video Description: Come along with Brother Francis as he shows us what it means to be a faithful follower of Jesus in action and deed and how our obedience can bring light to those around us! Teeming with inspiration and instruction, Brother Francis will help children to appreciate the blessings of personal holiness and devotion to God.

Activities

- [YouTube: A Little Spot of Kindness Read Aloud](#)
 - ◆ [Random Acts of Kindness Calendar Activity](#)
 - ◆ [Kind Acts Bingo](#)
- [Discovery Education: Craig Kielburger Founds Free the Children](#)
 - ◆ As a class complete the [WE Volunteer Now](#) worksheet from Craig's charity to see what your next community project is
- [NEWSELA: Formerly homeless 13-year-old now makes soaps and donates to charity](#)
 - ◆ [Scripture Reflection](#)

Additional Resources Continued

Reflection Questions can be presented in different ways depending on grade level and ability. Platforms that can be used are Padlet and Jamboard.

Reflection Questions:

- 1) How can we help solve the problem of poverty?
- 2) How can we help the poor & vulnerable healthy?
- 3) Can animals be considered poor & vulnerable?

Additional Resources

- Short & Curly Podcast: Should You Give Money to Homeless People?
 - ◆ Podcast Summary
- St. Cajetan
 - ◆ Feast Day Article
 - ◆ Create a poster listing all the ways your parish helps those who are poor or disadvantaged
- Freckle: Wants & Needs
 - ◆ Fill out the Wants & Needs table chart

Sister Elizabeth

Together as a class, read the questions and answers from Sr. Elizabeth.



Questions from kids like you!

- How does Jesus help people today? Where do people get their food from if they don't have any?

Isabel H. Grade 2

- ◆ [Discovery Education: St. Elizabeth of Hungary](#)
- ◆ [Feast Day Article](#)
- ◆ [Saint Banner](#)

- Are homeless people poor forever? Gisella P.

Grade 2

- ◆ [YouTube: St. John Bosco](#)
- ◆ How did God bless You? [activity](#)

Diocesan History Corner



St. Mary Mother of Jesus Light
& Snow Show

Activities

- [The Tablet](#): Queens Native Calls Bright Christmas a Lifesaver for Children
 - ◆ [Youtube](#): Editor Emeritus of The Tablet, Ed Wilkinson, Shares Favorite Bright Christmas Moments
 - ◆ [Summarize](#) The purpose of Bright Christmas based on the article & Youtube video
- Saint Louise de Marillac
 - ◆ [Read & Response](#)
 - ◆ [Feast Day article](#)
 - ◆ [Banner activity](#)

Sadlier



Saint Juan Diego

Activities

Part of our Catholic faith is learning to live out our faith to the world. Our guidelines are called Catholic Social Teachings, a foundation for life that is rooted in Scripture.

Following in the footsteps of Jesus and living your life with love, peace, and justice can seem overwhelming. By focusing on one of the Catholic Social Teachings at a time, you will live more like Jesus each day.

- The lives of Saints Worksheet
- Contact a charity that accepts clothing donations. In your class – or even your school – ask everyone to donate one pair of socks. For each pair collected, write a short note wishing the recipient a happy day or even a prayer and attach the note to each pair. Not only are you providing warmth for the winter, but you're also cheering up someone who may be poor in spirit.
- Read Mark 12 & create a Blackout Poem based on hope.