



And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something—now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means. For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have. I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. As it is written, 'The one who had much did not have too much, and the one who had little did not have too little.' 2 Cor. 8:10-15

ESSENTIALS TO JUSTICE *

- Affordable Food
- Employment
- Affordable Quality Childcare
- Education
- Healthcare
- A Just Immigration Policy
- Cultural Affirmation
- Equal Protection under the Law
- Economic Opportunity
- A Healthy Environment
- Housing

* The Presiding Bishop's Summit on Domestic Poverty 2008.



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CHARITY | JUSTICE | CHARITY | JUSTICE



JUBILEE | JUBILEE | JUBILEE | JUBILEE

*What does Jubilee Ministry call us to do?
 Works of CHARITY and JUSTICE.*

The Ministry of Jubilee

'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.' (Luke 4:18-19)

ATTACKING THE SYSTEMIC CAUSES OF DOMESTIC POVERTY AND INJUSTICE

But what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

When people are poor, when people lack the basic necessities to develop fully as human beings, what has been the usual Christian response? For the hungry, we give food, for the homeless, we open shelters, for those who need clothes, we collect used clothing.

The social teachings of the Church have been very specific in the past hundred years directing us to ask not only how much money or food people need, but to ask why people are poor and needy. We must examine and root out the systemic causes of poverty and injustice and not just their effects. Charity and justice are both essential to alleviating poverty. We must give assistance to the individual victim as well as attacking conditions of injustice (e.g. segregation, racism, sexism). Structural change is needed to eliminate the causes of evil.

This requires long-term, persistent efforts; short-term, sporadic efforts are inadequate and ineffective.

Our expectations are that conditions will return to normal and relief measures will no longer be needed. However, returning to "normal" does not bring relief. Root causes of injustice usually require questioning the institutions and social policies which violate the human dignity of groups of people.

THE MINISTRY OF JUBILEE IN THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Ministry of Jubilee in the Episcopal Church is an attempt at being "a Christian community in which the drama of the streets and the inner silence of which God speaks are bound together."

(The Standing Commission on The Church in Metropolitan Areas—1982)

While we are called to feed the hungry we are also equally called to address the cause of that hunger. Therefore our goal is to know the difference and to be prepared to work for both charity and justice for the glory and honor of God.

Some are called to be prophets, others teachers. We have to identify the needs and seek to discern those gifted/equipped to address those needs. We do not all have the temperament to contribute the same gifts, but we can all understand our work as fulfilling a common purpose to embrace the "least of these."



THE JUDGMENT OF THE NATIONS

'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Matthew 25:31-40

www.episcopalchurch.org/jubilee

To share your gifts, to share in the preparation for the kingdom of God, to bear witness to the Spirit of the Lord; commit yourself to the ministry of justice — the ministry of Jubilee.