

A LENTEN PRAYER

Creator,

*Help us respond to your call
to be members of one family.
Guide us to feel constant, peaceful
concern for our sisters and brothers
throughout the world.*

*Make us mindful of the needs of those
who must endure, day by day, the
injustice of hunger and poverty.*

*Bless us all this Lenten season, that
we may live in unity with others.*

*Renew our Christian commitment
to our global family.*

Amen



Photo by Karen Karmanski for CRS

ACTIVITY

RESPECTING HUMAN DIGNITY

OBJECTIVE

Youth will analyze the Catholic social teaching principle Sacredness and Dignity of the Human Person by reflecting on the value of all people and the difficulties they encounter in upholding another's dignity.

MATERIALS AND PREPARATION

- Make copies of the handout, "All Human Life Is Sacred." Make one copy for each small group and one copy for yourself.
- Set aside your copy of the handout. Stack the remaining copies together with several pieces of blank paper. Cut them all at once into 10 uniform pieces. Make sure there are no complete words on any one piece.
- Place electric fans on the floor of the activity area.
- Post your copy of the handout where all youth can see it.
- Mix all the pieces and scatter them on the floor.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Ask youth to gather around the pieces on the floor.
- Point to the posted copy of the handout and ask each small group to reassemble the handout from the pieces.
- They may not use anything other than their hands to hold the pieces in place.
- Invite them to begin.
- Turn on the fans.
- The first group to assemble the handout is the winner.

PROCESSING

- What made assembling the handout difficult?
- What are some of the difficulties people face in protecting the sacredness of life?
- There were many blank pieces of paper to mislead you. What are some false indicators of a person's value?
- Even when you found connecting pieces, it was hard to keep them together. What are some things that make it hard to remember that all people, including you, possess an inherent dignity that comes directly from God? What are some things that can chip away at your sense of self-worth or how you see others?
- What can you do this Lent to remember your own value and worth? And what can you do to respect the dignity and sacredness of others?

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