

# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2020

## #EachforEqual

This year's theme for International Women's Day is *Each for Equal*. Individually we are responsible for our thoughts and actions, all the time. We can speak up, speak out, challenge stereotypes and celebrate women's achievements. Collectively each one of us can help create a gender equal world.

<https://www.internationalwomensday.com/Theme>

### Did you know...

- On average, globally, women's earnings are about half those of men?
- When more women work, economies grow?
- Women tend to spend 2.5 times more time on unpaid care and domestic work than men?
- In 80% of the homes that do not have running water, women and girls are responsible for collecting it?
- 330 million women and girls live on less than US\$1.90 a day?
- Two thirds of the world's illiterate adult population are women?
- Life expectancy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women is 75.6 years, 7.8 years less than non-indigenous women?



"If we want a better world, a world that will be a peaceful home and not a war field, may we take to heart the dignity of each woman"

Pope Francis

Holy Mass of the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God 53<sup>rd</sup> World Day of Peace, 1st January 2020

### Sources: International Monetary Fund

<https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/Policy-Papers/Issues/2018/05/31/pp053118pursuing-womens-economic-empowerment>

### The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women, also known as UN Women

<https://www.unwomen.org/en/what-we-do/economic-empowerment/facts-and-figures#notes>

<https://www.unwomen.org/-/media/headquarters/attachments/sections/library/publications/2018/sdg-report-fact-sheet-global-en.pdf?la=en&vs=3554>

<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdg4>

### Australian Institute of Health and Welfare

<https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/life-expectancy-death/deaths-in-australia/contents/life-expectancy>



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## CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS AT A GLANCE

### ***Dignity of the Human Person***

We believe that every person is created in God's image and that all human life is sacred. We believe in the dignity of each person.

### ***Subsidiarity***

We believe in every person's right to participate in the decisions that affect their own lives.

### ***Solidarity***

We believe we are part of one human family and have a responsibility to help each person achieve their full potential.

### ***The Common Good***

We believe in working towards the common good and looking beyond our own personal interests.

Women are givers and mediators of peace and should be fully included in decision-making processes. Because when women can share their gifts, the world finds itself more united, more peaceful. Hence, every step forward for women is a step forward for humanity as a whole.

Pope Francis

Holy Mass of the Solemnity of Mary  
Mother of God 53<sup>rd</sup> World Day of  
Peace, 1st January 2020

For more resources on International Women's Day visit:

<https://www.internationalwomensday.com/>

For more resources on Catholic Social Teachings visit:

<https://www.caritas.org.au/learn/cst>

For more resources relating to the work of Caritas visit:

<https://www.caritas.org.au/learn>

Gracious God, we pray for ourselves and all women around the world.

Strengthen us to stand in solidarity with our sisters experiencing poverty and injustice.

Open our hearts to listen and serve.

Give us the courage to hope and work for a better future for all women.

Awaken us, that we may fully realise our interconnectedness to our one global human family.

Guide us with your spirit, to welcome, champion, practically and joyfully love each other.

Amen.

### **Questions to ponder**

The International Women's Day theme, *Each for Equal*, encourages us to speak out against bias and challenge stereotypes, how does this align with the Catholic Social Teaching of The Common Good?

If we believe that every person has the right to participate in decisions that affect their lives, why do you think that, on average, women earn about half that of men?

Women are disproportionately represented in the figures around illiteracy. How is the dignity of women diminished by this statistic?

In what ways could helping women achieve their full potential, raise the global economy? Suggest practical ways in your community that solidarity can impact women globally.



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