

Educating for Justice

Christians are asked to stand up for justice anytime they become aware of an injustice. Many have heard the saying that "peace begins with me." One can add, "Justice begins with me, too."

Parents of young children realize quite readily how early their children develop a sense of fairness. These insights must be confirmed in everyday experiences of owning, sharing, and giving.

Parents must be examples of justice and fairness in the home. Children growing up in a home where these virtues are practiced regularly begin to transfer their knowledge to issues of peace and justice in their neighborhoods and schools. Maturing in the Christian virtue of justice helps young Christians apply the princi-

pals of justice to issues of prejudice, racism, human rights, violence, stealing, and cheating.

Some Suggestions for Families

- Become peacemakers in your own families, school and neighborhood.
- Find out more about people who are oppressed. How can you help?
- Welcome someone of another race or nationality into your parish or neighborhood.
- Volunteer your services to a home for the elderly, a food bank, soup kitchen, hospital, or a work project at your parish/school.
- Write letters to your legislators about human rights, poverty programs, peace efforts, or any other justice issues your family feels strongly about.

The needs of the poor take priority over the desires of the rich.

Saint Pope John Paul II

The earth should be a common possession for all.

St. Ambrose

Around the House

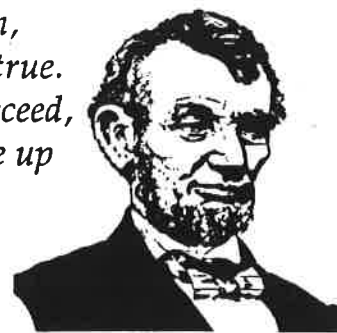
Mom: John, you can cut the cake.

Mary: That's not fair! John will take the biggest piece!

Mom: Mary, you can pick the first piece of cake after John cuts it.

*I am not bound to win,
but I am bound to be true.
I am not bound to succeed,
but I am bound to live up
to the light I have.*

*I must stand with
anybody that
stands right,
stand with them while they are right;
And part with them when they go wrong.*



Abraham Lincoln

Riches and freedom create a special obligation.

Saint Pope John Paul II