

# **St. Joan of Arc Outreach Fund: Justice Grants**

Twice yearly, we award Justice Grants from the St. Joan of Arc Outreach Fund. Through these grants:

1. We live out the values of the gospel, of Catholic Social Teaching, and of the parish of St. Joan of Arc.
2. We encourage and support the direct involvement of the St. Joan of Arc community in bringing God's justice and peace to the world.
3. We partner with local and global organizations and projects in which our parishioners volunteer and lead.

## **Use of the Fund:**

Grants will support worthy projects dedicated to building the common good and the Beloved Community. These projects can include charitable efforts that respond to immediate needs, as well as efforts for justice that change the systems that perpetuate poverty and oppression. We seek to fund efforts that prioritize solidarity with those who are served.

## **Grant information:**

1. We award grants up to \$5000.
2. The main criterion is the direct involvement and/or leadership of registered St. Joan of Arc parishioners.
3. The project must be in alignment with the mission statement, goals, and values of St. Joan of Arc and the principles of Catholic Social Teaching (see attached).
4. Projects or organizations that have recently received significant financial support from another source at St. Joan of Arc will not receive a grant.
5. Greater consideration will be given to groups in which the money and volunteers and leaders of SJA will have the most impact.

## **Fund Allocation Committee:**

Fund allocation decisions will be made by a committee from St. Joan of Arc, made up of members of the community, at the invitation of the director of peace and justice ministries. Decisions will be reported to the SJA Outreach Fund Board and to the community at large.

# Principles of Catholic Social Teaching

**1. Dignity of the Human Person:** Each and every person is made in the image and likeness of God. Human life is sacred, and the measure of every institution is whether it threatens or enhances human dignity.

**2. Common Good and Community:** The human being is both sacred and social, and our dignity can only be fully realized in relationship and community. How we organize our society – in economics and politics, in law and policy – directly affects human dignity and the capacity of individuals to grow in community. The obligation to “love our neighbor” is collective, not just individual! Each of us has a responsibility to contribute to the common good of the whole of society.

**3. Option for the Poor:** The moral test of a society is how it treats its most vulnerable members. We are called to look at our decisions in terms of how they affect the poor – this is not to pit one group or class against another, but because we believe the poor have the most urgent claim on the conscience of a nation and that the deprivation and powerlessness of the poor impacts our whole community.

**4. Rights & Responsibilities:** Human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights – including food, housing, health care, education, safety, the right to work and the right to rest - are protected. Every person has a fundamental right to life and those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities to one another, to our families and to our global family.

**5. Role of Government :** The state has a positive moral function: to promote human dignity and build the common good. Our participation in political institutions is a right and a responsibility, so that government can achieve its goals. The principle of subsidiarity means that the functions of government should be performed at the lowest level adequately possible.

**6. Economic Justice:** The economy must serve people, not the other way around. People have the right to productive work, decent and fair wages, safe working conditions and to organize and join unions. The right to private property has limits. No one is allowed to amass excessive wealth when others lack the basic necessities of life.

**7. Stewardship of God's Creation:** The earth is a gift from God. We have a responsibility to care for the earth as good stewards, not as mere consumers and users.

**8. Promotion of Peace:** Peace is the fruit of justice and is dependent on right relationships between people, cultures and nations. Peace is not just the absence of war!

**8. Solidarity:** We are one human family and we must work globally for justice, in relationships of respect, mutuality and equality.

# JUSTICE GRANT APPLICATION

**A hard copy of this application in its entirety must be received at St. Joan of Arc by the deadline. Part I (the application narrative) must be no more than 2 pages. Letters and budget information are supplemental.**

## **Part I: Application Narrative:**

1. Organization seeking funds: Include mailing address, and contact person from the organization (name, email and phone number)
2. Is the organization a 501(c)3?
3. What is the mission statement of the organization?
4. For what specific purpose or project are funds being sought?
5. How does the project seek to build community? How does it foster solidarity with those being served? How does the project strive to change unjust systems?
6. How much money are you requesting? (*We award grants up to \$5000. Organizations may apply once per year, up to 3 times in a 5 year period*).

## **Part II: Required letters of support:**

1. **Please submit written statements of support from at least 2 registered St. Joan of Arc parishioners who are actively involved in the organization or project, including their email and phone number. Each letter needs to clearly describe their involvement, and tell us why they feel a Justice Grant should be awarded. If you have been awarded a previous grant, the letters of support for any subsequent applications must come from different, additional registered parishioners.**
2. If you know that there is significant involvement by members of SJA, please let us know how many parishioners are involved in your work.

## **PART III: Additional required information:**

1. Current organizational budget
2. Current Program budget (if you are seeking funding for a specific project within the organization).

## **Submit a hard copy of this application to:**

Julie Madden  
St. Joan of Arc Church  
4537 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue South  
Minneapolis MN 55419

Questions? Please contact Julie at 612.823.8205x228, or [jmadden@stjoan.com](mailto:jmadden@stjoan.com). Thank you for applying!