

Justice Fund Policy

St. Joan of Arc

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To help bring the peace and justice promoted in the gospel and in the principles of Catholic Social Teaching to the world around us by encouraging and facilitating the direct involvement of the St. Joan of Arc community in peace and justice work.

RATIONALE

Financial contributions without personal involvement can become impersonal and ineffective. Justice activities without grass-roots involvement can become bureaucratic and ineffective. St. Joan of Arc seeks to support, encourage and facilitate the direct involvement of St. Joan of Arc people in peace and justice efforts through the grants dispersed by the Justice Fund. Contributed funds combined with direct involvement are more effective than contributed funds alone.

USE OF THE FUND

The fund will be used to support worthy projects dedicated to peace and justice causes. These projects are distinguished from charitable projects (that serve by responding to immediate needs but do not prioritize solidarity with those who are served or changing the systems that perpetuate poverty and injustice).

It is critical that there be active St. Joan of Arc parishioners within the organization applying for the grant. This partnership between St. Joan of Arc registered parishioners and the agency is needed to fulfill the criteria listed in the "Fund Allocation Criteria" section below.

SIZE OF GRANTS

Generally the grants given by the SJA Justice Fund Allocations Committee are modest; they range from \$1,000 - \$5,000.

FUND ALLOCATION CRITERIA

The participation of St. Joan of Arc registered parishioners with the organization or group applying for a grant is our primary criterion.

Other Criteria:

- The project promotes a peace or justice cause in keeping with the mission statement, goals, and philosophies of St. Joan of Arc and the principles of Catholic Social Teaching (attached).
- The project seeks money to begin or expand its function. Greater emphasis will be placed on developing projects rather than on long-term sustenance of projects. We seek to fund projects that fill an underserved need that is not currently being met.
- The project group seeks to build community.
- The group has not received funds from any other St. Joan of Arc source during the past year.

Greater consideration will be given to groups where the money and the voluntary activities of St. Joan of Arc registered parishioners will have the most meaningful impact.

FUND ALLOCATION COMMITTEE

Fund allocation decisions will be made by a committee from St. Joan's. The committee will include: the parish director, the director of peace and justice ministries, representatives from the Pastoral Council and Finance Committee, and at least two at large members.

HOW TO APPLY FOR FUNDS

Any interested St. Joan of Arc group may apply for funds by submitting a request in writing to the director of peace and justice ministries.

All such requests for funds need to satisfy the criteria listed above.

JUSTICE FUND APPLICATION

Church of St. Joan of Arc

Application must be a maximum of 4 pages and include the following:

PART I: APPLICATION NARRATIVE

1. Organization seeking funds (*including mailing address*)
2. Is the organization a 501 (c)(3)?
3. What is the Mission Statement of the organization?
4. How does your organization work for justice: That is, how does it change unjust systems?
5. For what specific purpose or project are funds being sought? (*Please include description of project, demographics of people served, and planned outcomes*)
6. How does the project seek to build community and foster solidarity with those who are served by its mission?
7. Has the project received funding from another St. Joan of Arc source in the past year?
8. How much money are you requesting? (*Grants will be given to agencies no more than 3 times annually in a 5 year period. Grants are generally from \$1,000 - \$5,000*)
9. Contact person from the organization (*Name and email*)

PART II: REQUIRED LETTERS OF SUPPORT:

1. List the names and **current activities** of St. Joan of Arc registered parishioners involved in this organization or project. Financial donation alone does not qualify.
2. **Please submit with this application written statements from at least 2 SJA registered parishioners (including their phone number and email address). Each letter needs to clearly describe their volunteer participation in this organization, and explain why they feel the SJA Justice Fund should fund this organization. If you have been awarded a previous grant, the letters of support must come from different, additional registered parishioners.**
3. A member of our funding committee will meet with at least one of the SJA parishioners who provide a letter of support before grants are dispersed. In addition, staff from the organization will be contacted if needed.

PART III: ADDITIONAL REQUIRED INFORMATION:

1. Current organizational budget
2. Current Program budget

Submit applications by mail to:

Julie Madden at:
St. Joan of Arc Church

4537 3rd Ave. So.
Minneapolis, MN 55419

Questions? Please contact Julie at 612.823.8205 or jmadden@stjoan.com

Catholic Social Teaching: Major Themes

FFI go to: www.osjspm.org/cst/themes.htm

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. 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. The poor have the most urgent moral claim on the conscience of a nation and the deprivation and powerlessness of the poor and marginalized wounds the 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 and responsibilities are met. 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 and to society.
5. Role of Government & Subsidiarity: The state has a positive moral function as an instrument to promote human dignity and build the common good. Our participation in political institutions is a right and a responsibility. The principle of subsidiarity holds 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: We have a responsibility to care for the earth as good stewards, not as mere consumers and users.

28 October 2015

8. Solidarity: We are one human family and we must work globally for justice.
Authentic development must be full human development.