

**Saint Thomas Aquinas Social Justice Committee
Minutes, June 1, 2021, 6:00 pm (via Zoom)**

Present: Chris Rehmann, Chuck Glatz, Francis Todey, Felicity Douglas, Dave Dirks, Fr. John Herzog, Mary Ellen Wishart, Paula Friederich

Prayer: Chris

**As we breathe the very air which sustains us.
We remember your love, God,
Which gives us life.**

**Fill us with your compassion for Creation,
Empty us of apathy, selfishness and fear,
of all pessimism and hesitation.**

**Breathe into us solidarity
with all who suffer now and the future generations
who will suffer.
because of our environmental
irresponsibility.**

**Move us into action
to save our earth
And to build your sustainable Kingdom.**

Amen

Minutes of May 4: Approved

Business

Covid-19 Donations:

Donation levels are expected to meet the needs of the next month.

Support/sponsorship of Honduran mother and child who are seeking asylum:

Francis reported that the STA Pastoral Council was supportive of this effort and willing to offer an appeal to the STA community for aid to this family.

Mary Ellen will draft an announcement for publication.

Social Justice Grants:

These have been approved by the SJC sub-committee and the awards are to be distributed in July.

Sunday Seminars

The SJC discussed whether to resume in-person seminars in the fall. All were in favor pending continuing improvement of the pandemic.

Environmental Justice

Dave Dirks and Bob Bourne led the SJC in a presentation and discussion, specifically related to whether and how STA can and should advantage solar energy for the needs of the STA structure.

The SJC joins and strongly supports efforts to become more energy efficient. Further discussion is necessary among all to decide the best avenue for STA.

Next Meeting: July 6 @ 6pm

Respectfully submitted by Paula Friederich

Addendum: Next meeting was later rescheduled to July 13 at 7 pm.