

In these uncertain times, let us remind ourselves of the United States bishops' call for a preferential option for the poor in their 1986 pastoral letter, *Economic Justice for All, Catholic Social Teaching and the U.S. Economy*.



“The quality of the national discussion about our economic future will affect the poor most of all, in this country and throughout the world. The life and dignity of millions of men, women, and children hang in the balance. Decisions must be judged in light of what they do for the poor, what they do to the poor, and what they enable the poor to do for themselves. The fundamental moral criterion for all economic decisions, policies, and institutions is this: They must be at the service of *all people, especially the poor*.”

Giving drink to the thirsty, feeding the hungry, dressing the naked and housing the homeless in this age of refugees fleeing with only the clothes on their backs becomes more relevant each day. Opportunities abound to build social structures that facilitate this if we open our eyes to recognize them.

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