Catholic Social Teaching - Questions to accompany our *Together in Cameroon* film

Before watching *Together in Cameroon* film, ask pupils to look out for examples of CST in action. If required, pause the first screen to remind pupils of each CST principle. They are:

- Human Dignity
- Option for the Poor
- Solidarity
- Community and Participation
- Stewardship
- Rights and Responsibilities
- Dignity of Work

After watching the film, ask pupils to raise their hands to explain where they saw examples of each of the above principles in action. Below are some possible answers.

Human Dignity: Fr Leon arranging instruments and new uniforms for the choir; Fr Leon creating opportunities (choir, school, rally, farming project) to keep young people safe and allow them to flourish.

Option for the Poor: Fr Leon facilitating planning and construction of the new school; Fr Leon supporting the community (parents and teachers) to find ways for their youth to flourish.

Solidarity: Fr Leon, his local community, and Missio/Mission Together, working together to build the school. Despite the huge distances between us, and never having met each other, God unites us as one family. As God's children we work in union with one another, and in union with God the Father, to make positive change.

Community and Participation: The choir encourages participation and building community. Members of the community, of whatever age, come together to listen to the choir; the youth rally also encouraged participation, and inspired and strengthened the community.

Stewardship: The farming project teaches young people to look after creation, and to look after members of the community, by distributing crops to those in need.

Rights and Responsibilities: The construction of the school evidences the children's right to education. The community recognised its responsibility to provide a school, working together to raise funds, create materials (individuals produced mud bricks, cut timer), and provide labour. Missio supporters also recognised our responsibility to ensure Fr Leon's community accessed their right to education.

Dignity of Work: Members of the local community were employed to work on the new school. This enabled labourers to support themselves and their loved ones financially. Working on the school also bestowed a sense of dignity and pride. We experience the same when we put effort into a piece of work and are proud of the results. Also, when we can see that our efforts and contributions are appreciated and make a difference.

Catholic Social Teaching - *Agree, disagree*

After watching *Together in Cameroon* film, a good way to encourage deeper understanding and discussion around Catholic Social Teaching, is by playing the *Agree, disagree* game.

You can play the game in a classroom, playground or hall.

Begin by designating one side of the space as 'Agree' and the other side as 'Disagree'. Ask students to stand in the middle (neutral) space. Then, read out a statement based on the CST principles exemplified in our Together in Cameroon film (find some examples below). Pupils then choose to agree or disagree with the statement by standing in the corresponding area. They can stand anywhere between the two sides, depending on their view. <u>All pupils must be ready to provide a reason for their position.</u>

Below are some suggested *Agree, disagree,* statements to get you started.

Let's use the following statement to help us think more deeply about *Human Dignity:*

Being provided with new choir uniforms reminds the children of their dignity.

Let's use the following statement to help us think more deeply about *Option for the Poor*:

Fr Leon believes that following Jesus means we have special care for the poor.

Let's use the following statement to help us think more deeply about *Solidarity:*

Working together is always better than working alone.

Let's use the following statement to help us think more deeply about *Community and Participation:*

Children participating in the youth choir strengthens the whole community.

Let's use the following statement to help us think more deeply about *Stewardship:*

Taking care of the planet is more important than taking care of its people.

Let's use the following statement to help us think more deeply about *Rights and Responsibilities:*

It is my responsibility to help all children learn.

Let's use the following statement to help us think more deeply about the *Dignity of Work*:

It was important that members of Fr Leon's community built their new local school.