

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING ALIGNED TO

Digital Citizenship Principles

As people of faith, we are called to be present in all places and all spaces. Teach Catholic kids that their digital footprint is forever and what they do and say online says something not only about them as individuals, but about all Catholics. We must take on this responsibility as a Church. This chart is just an example of how you can make connections between digital citizenship and the themes of Catholic Social Teaching in your religious education classroom.

Catholic Social Teaching	Digital Citizenship
Life and Dignity of the Human Person	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building a positive self-identity • Treating others with respect in digital spaces • Portraying yourself online and in social media • Respecting diverse opinions and perspectives through respectful dialogue online
Call to Family, Community, and Participation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating and building positive and healthy online relationships • Identifying bias and point of view when reviewing content • Examining your digital footprint and what it conveys to others
Rights and Responsibilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keeping yourself and others safe online • Understanding best practices for protecting privacy • Applying ethical practices for online commerce • Practicing academic honesty • Modeling safe, legal, and ethical behavior online
Option for the Poor and Vulnerable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Advocating for equal access to digital tools • Using technology to increase accessibility for those with disabilities or diverse needs • Understanding how online relationships can exploit vulnerable populations and how to safeguard them
Dignity and Rights of Workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Knowing when and how to use other people’s work properly by giving credit and respecting copyright • Understanding how companies may use information collected about employees or consumers • Using technology for collaboration in the workforce to effectively reduce workloads and maintain work-life balance
Solidarity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing global and cultural awareness • Recognizing and reporting cyberbullying • Standing up against hate speech, racism, discrimination, and other inappropriate online behavior
Care for God’s Creation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding healthy use of technology and recognizing signs of technology addiction • Using technology to reduce the depletion of non-renewable resources and waste • Using technology to solve real-world problems and improve quality of life for those in need

