



Scripture

Old Testament: "Wash, make yourselves clean, take your wrongdoing out of sight. Cease to do evil. Learn to do good, search for justice, help the oppressed, be just to the orphan, plead for the widow. Come now, let us talk this over, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." Isaiah 1:6-18 from the Breviary.

New Testament: "'The labourer deserves to be paid'" 1 Timothy 5:18 from The Poverty and Justice Bible: Catholic Edition

Catechism

"One acts justly by always making sure to give to God and to one's neighbour what is due to them." YOUCAT #302

Comment

The cause of industrial action is a perceived lack of justice, a failure to render to the workers the monetary remuneration that they have earned and is their right. For many people around the world, this lack of just payment is one factor in impeding their progress and freedom.

Organisation of the month

Transform Trade, the new name for Traidcraft Exchange, seeks to assist producers and artisans around the world with just remuneration for their creativity and work. If you did not have an opportunity to support Fairtrade Fortnight this year, perhaps you might like to consider donating to Transform Trade, so that the baton may be passed from Traidcraft to this new Fairtrade organisation. Visit www.transform-trade.org for more information.

Pray, Think, Act

Pray: that God the Father, through Jesus Christ His Son may, by the power of the Holy Spirit, equip you with every good gift so that you too may be an instrument of justice and peace for the world;

Think: when was the last time that you were short-changed in a shop? How would you feel if your employer did not pay you at the end of the month? Now imagine that experience for a farmer or producer in the developing world knowing that, without support, they will not receive just wages for their work;

Act: visit www.transform-trade.org for more information and ways in which you can donate.

*"Do as much as you can. God will do what we ourselves cannot do."
St John Bosco, Letter to Cagliero, November 13, 1875*