

## Scripture

Old Testament: "As the rain and the snow come down from the heavens and do not return without watering the earth, making it yield and giving growth to provide seed for the sower and bread for the eating, so the word that goes from my mouth does not return to me empty, without carrying out my will and succeeding in what it was sent to do." Isaiah 55:10-11 from the Breviary.

New Testament: "If a man who was rich enough in this world's goods saw that one of his brothers was in need, but closed his heart to him, how could the love of God be living in him? My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active." 1 John 3:17-18 from the Breviary.

## Catechism

"Christians are committed to just societal structures. Part of this is universal access to the material, intellectual and spiritual goods of this world...

"Solidarity is the practical hallmark of a Christian. Practicing solidarity is not just a command of reason. Jesus Christ, our Lord, identified completely with the poor and lonely (Mt 25:40). To refuse solidarity with them would be to reject Christ." YOUCAT #332

## Comment

As the illegal war against Ukraine continues, civilians as well as the military continue to suffer attack directly, from missile launches, as well as indirectly, through loss of homes, hospitals, schools, infrastructure, public amenities and now, access to food. UNICEF – The United Nations' Children's Fund – seeks to use donations to help the most vulnerable in war-torn Ukraine. See www.unicef.org.uk for more information.

## Pray, Think, Act

**Pray**: that God the Father, in the name of His Beloved Son Jesus Christ may, by the power of the Holy Spirit, inspire and equip you to act in solidarity with those whose lives have been affected so tragically by the war in Ukraine;

**Think**: about the number of Ukrainians that you know in school, parish, workplace, local community. Are you aware of support networks to help Ukrainians and refugees from Ukraine in your area?

**Act**: Visit www.unicef.org.uk for more information about donating to their work and other ways in which you can help.

"Do as much as you can. God will do what we ourselves cannot do."

St John Bosco, Letter to Cagliero, November 13, 1875