SURVEY OF RECENTLY ORDAINED PRIESTS
CARA – Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

Directions: This questionnaire will help us to better understand your experiences of Catholic Social Teaching (CST) and Catholic Relief Services (CRS) during your time in the seminary and at your current assignment. Your individual response is extremely important. Please respond by marking an “X” in the appropriate boxes below.

Please use these responses for the questions below.
1=Not At All 3=Some or Somewhat
2=Only a Little 4=Very or Very Much
Blank=Don’t Know or Not Applicable

How satisfied are you with the following?

1 2 3 4
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 1. Your seminary experience overall
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 2. Your seminary’s overall integration of Catholic Social Teaching (CST) into its formation program
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 3. Your knowledge of CST at present
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 4. Your present assignment overall
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 5. Catholic Relief Services (CRS) overall
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 6. CRS’s Rice Bowl program
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 7. CRS’s Ethical Trade program
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 8. Overseas trips with CRS (if applicable)

During your time in the seminary, how well was CST integrated in the following areas?

1 2 3 4
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 9. Human Formation
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 10. Spiritual Formation
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 11. Intellectual Formation
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 12. Pastoral Formation
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 13. Your moral theology course
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 14. Your field experience
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 15. Seminary presentations
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 16. Seminary workshops

How well did your seminary instruct you in understanding the following CST-related topics?

1 2 3 4
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 17. Sanctity of human life
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 18. Dignity of the human person
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 19. Religious freedom
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 20. Pursuit of the Common Good
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 21. The call to family, community and participation
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 22. Charity toward others
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 23. Caring for God’s creation
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 24. Issues related to climate change
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 25. Issues related to racism
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 26. Preferential option for the poor and vulnerable
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 27. Issues related to immigration
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 28. Issues related to refugees
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 29. Dignity of work
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 30. Simplicity of life

How much do you agree with the following statements?

1 2 3 4
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 31. I had a strong interest in social justice issues even before I entered the seminary
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 32. My seminary co-students, on the whole, were interested in learning more about CST
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 33. CRS Ethical Trade products were available at my seminary
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 34. My seminary co-students, on the whole, had a positive impression of CRS
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 35. Overall, CRS was seen by my co-students as an organization that upholds Catholic doctrine
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 36. I feel I received too much training in CST during my seminary training at the expense of other topics that would have been more beneficial to me in my current ministry
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 37. I wish I had received more training in CST during my seminary training
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 38. My seminary encouraged seminarians to embrace the virtue of simplicity of life
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 39. My seminary prepared me well for my current assignment

How much opportunity do you see for the following at your current assignment?

1 2 3 4
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 40. Incorporating CST into your ministries with other members of the staff
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 41. Teaching parishioners or constituents about the topic of CST in one of your ministries
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 42. Mentioning CST regularly in homilies
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 43. Instituting regular collections for CRS or another social justice-related organization
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 44. Incorporating CST into Advent programs
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 45. Incorporating CST into Lenten programs

How much do you agree with the following statements?

1 2 3 4
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 46. Overall, the staff members at my current assignment are receptive to incorporating CST into the ministries we do together
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 47. My parish has effectively woven CST into many of its ministries (if applicable)
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 48. My parish has adopted a less affluent sister parish (if applicable)
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 49. My parish conducts an annual collection for CRS (if applicable)
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 50. My parish conducts regular collections for social justice issues not related to CRS (if applicable)
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 51. Overall, the parishioners at my current assignment are receptive to learning more about CST (if applicable)
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 52. I am interested in participating in CRS-sponsored national programs in the future
53. What theologate seminary did you attend?
   
   
   54. Year you were ordained a priest?
   
   Please answer “yes” or “no” to the following questions.

Yes No

☐  55. Were you a CRS Animator at your seminary?
☐  56. Did you belong to a social justice-related group at your theologate seminary?
☐  57. Is post-ordination formation required for you in your diocese or religious institute?

Please use these responses for the questions below.

1=Strongly Disagree  3=Somewhat Agree
2=Somewhat Disagree  4=Strongly Agree
Blank=Don’t Know or Not Applicable

Respond to the following statements only if you were a CRS Animator at your seminary.

1 2 3 4

☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 58. Being a CRS animator had a positive impact on my seminary experience
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 59. Being a CRS animator was too time-consuming
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 60. CRS animators contributed to a communal transformation at my seminary
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 61. The quarterly conference calls with CRS were helpful for me as an animator
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 62. I regularly read CRS’s Clergy Newsletter
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 63. I find CRS’s Clergy Newsletter useful for my ministry
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 64. I regularly read CCGP Action Alerts
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 65. I find CCGP Action Alerts useful for my ministry
☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ 66. I would recommend being a CRS animator to a friend at the seminary

All respondents:
67. What best describes your current assignment? Please select only one.
   
   ☐  1. Ministry in a parish
   ☐  2. Ministry in a diocese
   ☐  3. Non-parish ministry in a religious institute
   ☐  4. Teaching position
   ☐  5. Other ________________________________.

68. Which of the following best describes the constituents at your current assignment? Please select only one.
   
   ☐  1. Mostly upper income
   ☐  2. Mixed middle and upper income
   ☐  3. Mostly middle income
   ☐  4. Mixed middle and low income
   ☐  5. Mostly low income

69. What best describes the place where you are currently assigned?
   
   ☐  1. Urban area
   ☐  2. Suburban area
   ☐  3. Town or small city
   ☐  4. Rural area

If you minister at a parish or in a client-centered ministry, what percentage of your parishioners or constituents belong to the following ethnic groups?

Total should = 100%

☐  70. American Indian or Alaska Native
☐  71. Asian, Pacific Islander, or Native Hawaiian
☐  72. Black, African American, or Afro-Caribbean
☐  73. Hispanic or Latino
☐  74. White, Caucasian, or European American
☐  75. Other:______________________________

76. Year you were born: ________ (4-digit year)

77. What best describes your ethnic background?
   
   ☐  1. American Indian or Alaska Native
   ☐  2. Asian, Pacific Islander, or Native Hawaiian
   ☐  3. Black, African American, or Afro-Caribbean
   ☐  4. Hispanic or Latino
   ☐  5. White, Caucasian, or European American
   ☐  6. Other:______________________________

78. What aspects of CST do you wish you had more training on or exposure to during your time in the seminary?

79. In what areas do you wish you could receive ongoing training now to help you be more effective in your current assignment?

Thank you for completing this survey.

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