From Pontiff to Pew (continued):
a politico-juridical order which will give better protection to the rights of the person in public life" (GS, 73).

The political community exists for the sake of the common good, which consists of "the sum of those conditions of the social life whereby men, families and associations more adequately and readily may attain their own perfection" (GS, 74). The exercise of political authority must always be directed towards the common good, which must be structured and operate according to local and historical circumstances, but always with the good of the entire human family at heart (cf. ibid.).

Gaudium et Spes reiterates that "the Church and the political community in their own fields are autonomous and independent from each other. Yet both, under different titles, are devoted to the personal and social vocation of the same men. The more that both foster sounder cooperation between themselves with due consideration for the circumstances of time and place, the more effective will their service be exercised for the good of all" (GS, 76).

Dear friends, engaging in economic and political life in accordance with these criteria is a way of building peace. As Pope Francis recalled, "war is a failure of politics and of humanity, a shameful capitulation, a stinging defeat before the forces of evil" (Encyclical Letter Fratelli tutti, 261). On the contrary, politics that tends to the wounds of peoples and of those who suffer injustice offers grounds for hope for the future of humanity.

For this reason, I encourage young people to follow the example of those men and women who have borne faithful witness in these fields. And I renew my call to Christian communities to revive formation in the social doctrine of the Church.

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From the Pastor's Desk

This week, I wanted to assure you that I am most grateful for your ongoing prayers as this is a very busy time for me, pastorally, spiritually, academically and medically. I also want to remind you of what I wrote a few weeks ago with regard to my hopes for a Eucharistic renewal in our parish during the next liturgical year. I was hoping that after some reflection upon my words to you that I might have seen some increase in daily Mass

attendance and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament; however, the response has not been immediate. I pray that my call to all of you to recognize the Eucharist as the source and summit of our Catholic existence will continue to take root in your hearts as we quickly approach a time of new beginnings, that is the Season of Advent that begins in just three weeks. The Lord has assured me that my patience will bear fruit. Concomitant to our Eucharistic Renewal, I hope to revive the Marian spirit of our family of faith, seeing that our patronage is that of the of the Most Blessed Virgin Mary, under the title of Our Lady of the Visitation. This will consist of both educational and prayer opportunities over the course of the coming year. I assure you that there will be more details to follow. STAY TUNED!!!

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HEARING JESUS' COMMAND TO LOVE THE POOR IN OUR MIDST: A sincere thank you to all participated in our recent coat drive which turned out to be a tremendous success. As always, I am so very pleased with the generosity of our parish when asked to enflesh the **Corporal Works of Mercy** *(namely clothing the naked).* As the holiday season draws near, in particular Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Hannukah we know that one of the things that most of us can envision is the tremendous feast associated with their celebration. Unfortunately, due to the current economic climate, there are many in our community who suffer from food insecurity. And I can sadly assure you that there are members of our own parish who are not immune from these adverse circumstances. It is with this in mind that I am once again asking to hear Jesus's clarion call to live out the first two of the **Corporal Works of Mercy** *(giving food to the hungry and drink to the thirsty)* by contributing to our holiday food drive that will begin next Sunday, November 15 and continue until the Third Sunday of Advent, December 13. (This may seem like a long period of time; however, the needs that I have witnessed is greater than ever before). All that is required of you is to bring any number of perishable food items to the room formerly known as the usher room of the main vestibule of the Church. Having delivered food items to those who struggle financially, especially at this time of year, I know well that things as simple as some canned goods, boxes of cereal, or other non-perishable food items can bring tremendous relief to families (old and young) who through no fault of their own find themselves in dire need. Whether you have given consistently, or you have never given before, please consider the simple gift of food as a way to share God's goodness to you.