

Justice and Advocacy: Why we do it.

(From the Diocese of Toronto website on Social Justice.)



Because God calls us to both compassion and justice:

“I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me... Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” – Matthew 25:35-6, 40

“How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.” – 1 John 3:17-18

“...cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow” – Isaiah 1:16-17

“He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?” – Micah 6:8

Because it is part of our baptismal covenant...

“Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbour as yourself?

“I will, with God’s help.”

“Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?”

“I will, with God’s help.”

“Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the earth?”

“I will, with God’s help.”

– Holy Baptism, Book of Alternative Services

... and the mission of our Church:

The Five Marks of Mission of the Anglican Communion:

1. To proclaim the Good News of the Kingdom
2. To teach, baptize and nurture new believers
3. To respond to human need by loving service
4. To seek to transform unjust structures of society, to challenge violence of every kind and to pursue peace and reconciliation
5. To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the life of the earth.

Social / Environmental justice and advocacy is also a key part of how we “engage faithfully with the world” as expressed in our [Diocesan Mission Statement](#).