



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CITY**—With the holiday season approaching, one national Catholic organization is reminding people in the pews of the Church’s justice teachings as they apply to thousands of workers in the United States.

“Catholic social doctrine teaches us that a ‘just wage is the legitimate fruit of work,’ stated Dr. Joseph Fahey, National Chair of Catholic Scholars for Worker Justice. “But for fast-food workers across the country who earn minimum wage or just above it, the fruit of their labor is far from just.”

Catholic Scholars for Worker Justice, an organization of theologians and academics committed to promoting Catholic Social Teaching on the rights of workers and the indispensable role that unions play in securing justice, released a statement of support for fast-food workers who are joining together throughout the U.S. to fight for a \$15/hour wage and the right to form a union without employer interference. The campaign has received national attention following a series of one-day walk-outs staged by workers in a number of cities beginning this past May.

The statement points out that jobs in fast-food restaurants like McDonald’s and Taco Bell are the “fastest growing jobs in the United States” but that fast food workers “earn between \$10,000 and \$18,000 a year—a fraction of what it costs to support a family.” The statement reminds Catholics that every pope for the past 120 years has “encouraged workers to organize to improve their wages” and that advocating for the rights of workers has enjoyed a long history within the Church.

“Today, as low-wage jobs proliferate, Catholics should once again be by workers’ sides,” urged Sr. Mary Priniski, O.P., Vice Chair of Catholic Scholars for Worker Justice. “We should support their much-needed campaign for a just wage. It’s the Catholic thing to do.”

- **To read the entire statement from Catholic Scholars for Worker Justice, visit their website at [www.cwsj.us](http://www.cwsj.us).**
- **For media inquiries, contact Dr. Joseph J. Fahey, National Chair of Catholic Scholars for Worker Justice, at 914-220-2057 or [josephjfahey@gmail.com](mailto:josephjfahey@gmail.com).**