



2021 Course on the Social Doctrine of the Church

The Social Doctrine of the Church for a Green New Deal

The social and economic crisis exacerbated by the covid-19 pandemic is a threat to Europe and the world. For the Social Doctrine of the Church as well, the challenge posed by the European Green Deal is to make the economy sustainable, by turning climate and environmental challenges into opportunities in the social and political fields to make the transition fair and inclusive for all.

The course on the Social Doctrine of the Church scheduled for the year 2021 - when the Church in Italy will also celebrate the 49th Social Week in Taranto on the relationship between work and the environment - aims to further explore what model of integral human development to promote as believers in public space.

The learning **method** we are proposing envisages five areas:

1. The knowledge and practice of spiritual life through the instruments of tradition such as the *lectio* of chosen pages from the Gospel, the rules for discernment of spirits, contemplation, and so on.
2. The deepening of the contents of current themes outlined by the SDC and drafting of a dissertation that is a personalised summary of one of the themes explored in depth.
3. The gathering and testimony of some members of the Foundation to question ourselves about a concrete way of living the principles of the SDC.
4. The in-depth examination of some magisterial texts in order to place them in history and understand their current relevance.
5. The creation of a thinking community and a community of life that can help, share, and support witnessing the social teaching of the Church in its activities and in the world. This is the value of the salt, light, and leaven placed above the bushel, as mentioned in the Gospel.

We will count on the support of educators who, in addition to their expertise, believe in and support our project. For all these reasons, I would like to welcome you here so that, through our faith, the course may be an instrument to grow as people, to enrich our work and to bear fruit for the life of the world.

Rome, 5 November 2020.

In witness thereof,
Fr. Francesco Occhetta S.I.