



MAY 2021

Update on Vaccine Equity

“For all our hyper-connectivity, we witnessed a fragmentation that made it more difficult to resolve problems that affect us all. Anyone who thinks that the only lesson to be learned was the need to improve what we were already doing, or to refine existing systems and regulations, is denying reality.”

Pope Francis, *Frat elli Tutti*

Address of His Holiness Pope Francis to the Banco Farmaceutico Foundation, September 19th, 2020

“Those who live in poverty are poor in everything, even medicines, and therefore their health is more vulnerable. Sometimes they run the risk of not being able to obtain treatment because of lack of money, or because some people in the world do not have access to certain medicines. There is also a "pharmaceutical marginality", and this must be said. This creates a further gap between nations and between peoples. On an ethical level, if there is the possibility of curing a disease with a drug, it should be available to everyone, otherwise it creates injustice. Too many people, too many children are still dying in the world because they are denied access to a drug that is available in other regions, or a vaccine. We know the danger of the globalization of indifference. Instead, I propose to globalise treatment, that is, the possibility of access to those drugs that could save so many lives for all populations. And to do this takes a joint effort, a convergence that involves everyone.”



LEARN

The Catholic Health Association published a report on the need for an equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. Click the CHA logo to read the full report.



PRAY

A Prayer for COVID Times

For those who have suffered or passed from coronavirus into eternal life,

Oh healing God, we pray.

For our essential workers, especially for those made to work in unsafe conditions,

Oh healing God, we pray.

For those left behind in a period of economic uncertainty and turmoil,

Oh healing God, we pray.

For those living with anxiety and in need of peace of mind and spirit,

Oh healing God, we pray.

For those left waiting for access to medical treatment and vaccinations,

Oh healing God, we pray.

For those responsible for an equitable distribution of vaccines,

Oh healing God, we pray.

For a future where all of creation lives together in the full communion of life,

Oh healing God, we pray.

Amen

[Click here to listen to *Shelter Me*, a hymn written for pandemic times by the Reverend Michael Joncas](#)

ACT

Action Alert from the Maryknoll Office of Global Concerns

[Click here to ask your member of Congress to promote global access to COVID-19 vaccines.](#)