Tackling Dehumanising Poverty in the Global South and Introducing Pope Francis's Concept of Integral Human Development

Immaculate Conception Parish , Maryhill

21st February 2013

First Main Point of IHD

New paradigm of development based not just on *human* development but integral ecology including both nature and other creatures



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Burmese refugees in Thailand

Pope Francis

One complex crisis…[which] demands n integrated approach to combatting poverty, restoring dignity to the ezcluded and at the same time protecting nature



Second Point: Intergenerational Solidarity

Since the world has been given to us, we can no longer view reality in a purely utilitarian way, in which efficiency and productivity are entirely geared to our individual benefit. Intergenerational solidarity is not optional but rather a basic question of justice, since the world we have received also belongs to those who will follow us.

Pope Francis, Laudato Si', 2015 par. 159.

Third Point: IHD intimately connected to common good and solidarity



Solidarity and Pope Francis

Solidarity is “the creation of a new mindset which thinks in terms of community and the priority of life for all over the appropriation of goods by the few”

Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium (Joy of the Gospel, 2013) par. 188

Fourth point: IHD promotes the whole of life



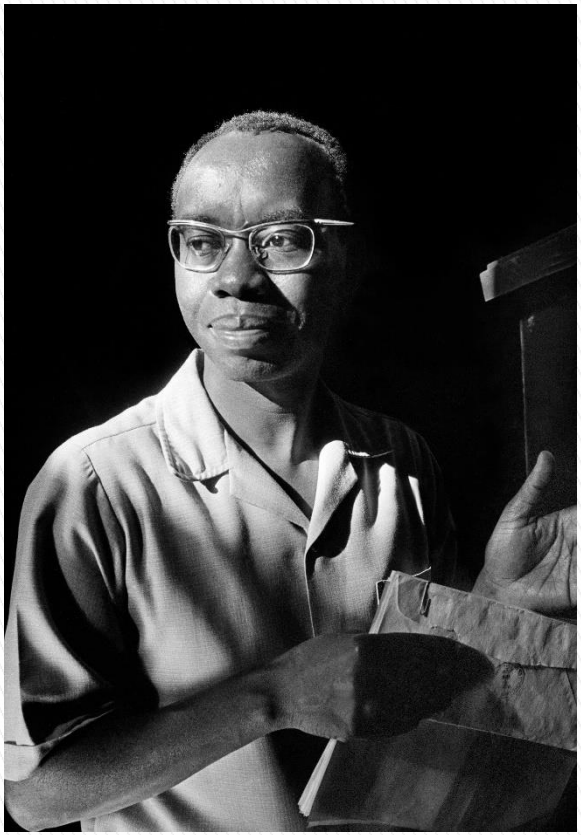
Holistic Development

Includes the transcendent.

Kenyan theologian, John Mbiti

It is religion that colours Africans' understanding of the Universe and their participation in that Universe, and that resulted in the saying 'I am because we are'

Ubuntu



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The late John Mbiti

Fifth point: upholding human dignity



Means listening to and empowering the so-called beneficiaries who have become, in SCIAF, ‘programme participants’ who become the ‘doers and judges’ of the programmes which affect their lives.

The new farmer

Participation

Authentic partnership

- Partners are resources communities can draw on in the search for solutions
- They facilitate and don't dictate



Universal solidarity



- Men help wives with housework – not a cultural norm
- Less domestic violence
- Young stay at home rather than be exploited overseas
- The elderly are socialised ‘we now look out for one another’

Integral Human Development



- Pope Francis: human life is like an orchestra that "performs well if the various instruments are in harmony and follow a score shared by all".
- IHD is the music which that orchestra should play to rid our world of dehumanising global poverty and save the planet

Burmese student on the Thai border

Pope Francis 2017

IHD in Timor Leste



Thank you



- Stephen and Iona
- Fr Jim
- You, the parishioners and friends who joined Mary and myself in exploring the glories of CST.

In Umpiem Refugee camp, Thailand

Thank you, Immaculate Conception parish