Call for Abstracts

By the Journal of Catholic Social Thought and scholars at the University of San Francisco, Boston College, and the University of New Mexico

Organizing, Synodality, and Catholic Social Thought & Practice

Description

Organizing is one of the most prominent and long-standing implementations of Catholic social teaching in the US. Often partially funded by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development and drawing on the participation of lay leaders, clergy and religious, bishops, and universities, organizing draws Catholics and Catholic institutions into public life, civic engagement, and collaboration with people from other faith traditions. It exemplifies Americans convening across lines of race/ethnicity, economic situation, immigrant-native status, and political viewpoint in search of the common good. It offers tools for constructing a politics of the common life that can undergird a shared future.

As a sequel to the conference Prophetic Communities: Organizing as an Expression of Catholic Social Thought, being held at the University of San Francisco in February 2023, the Journal of Catholic Social Thought invites submission of abstracts for scholarly papers addressing the conference’s themes. (N.B. These are not abstracts for presentation at the conference itself.)

Sample Topics

Catholic theology of organizing
Catholic social ethics and the political ethics of organizing
Organizing with traditionalist and charismatic Catholics in the new pastoral movements
Labor organizing, Catholic teaching, and Catholic institutions
Ecclesiology, synodality, and democratic organizing
Organizing as a challenge to Catholic institutional ethics

Francis, synodality, and relational organizing
Organizing and ministerial formation (priests, religious, and laity)
Racism and racial equity in Catholic organizing spaces
Catholic universities, emerging adults, and organizing careers
Climate change, Laudato si’, and the challenge to traditional organizing
Organizing collaboratively with a new generation of Catholic clergy

Abstract Submission

• Abstracts must be submitted by March 15, 2023. Notice of acceptance will be given by May 1. Papers from authors from diverse social backgrounds are strongly encouraged.
• Authors of accepted abstracts must submit the article by Aug. 31 and will receive feedback during the fall. Revisions are due Jan. 15, 2024, and final versions March 1, 2024.
• Acceptance of an abstract does not guarantee publication. The editors retain discretion over final publication. To learn more, contact the guest editors: Erin Brigham, Nicholas Hayes-Mota, and Richard L. Wood.