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## **Lesson nr. 2 – Tuesday, Oct 6 - CONTINUATION, 2020.**

### **1) Definition of HUMAN PERSON according to Catholic Teaching:**

1a) We are **CREATED** in the image and likeness of God – but what does it mean? It means that:

- God is our **FATHER** – we have the ability of having a **LOVING** relationship with our God (CCC 736)
- We are like **GOD** – that means we have **INTELLIGENCE, FREE WILL and CAPACITY TO LOVE** (Physical bodies and rational souls – not in the animal kingdom any more not yet in Heaven)
- Human Life is **HOLY** – our life possesses great sacredness – all of us are capable of being **REDEEMED** by God in the person of **JESUS**
- Our **WORK has special value** – our **DIGNITY** does not come from what we do – but from who we are – we are an **IMAGO DEI** – an **IMAGE OF GOD** (or ought to be, therefore insistent Church teaching)

**Therefore, as a Catholic Christian, being immersed in the WORLD that is MULTICULTURAL and living in a MULTI- FAITH SOCIETY (with the inclusion of people of NO FAITH – that is, either ATHEIST or AGNOSTICS) – my goal is to help you to LEARN how to NAVIGATE through all that SURROUNDS us and still keep – and possible even share - our Catholic Faith.**

Deeper look into the CULTURAL and RELIGIOUS differences right away point into the realization that not EVERYONE – not at all – shares all the BELIEFS mentioned above; THEREFORE:

1. As an integral part of our FAITH EXPERIENCE, we need to look closer at the CATEGORIES and DISTINCTIONS with regards to the DEFINITION OF A HUMAN PERSON, for instance:

- Why am I called a **PERSON**?
- Is the term: PERSON in real conflict with the technical, scientific, biological, chemical and philosophical definitions of **Human Being**?
- Why socio – economic and ethnic backgrounds play such an important role in defining a Human Being, or a PERSON?
- What does **being a PERSON IMPLY**?
- Why we could say that each PERSON has a very important, **intrinsic DIGNITY** and what that dignity is?
- Why, as CATHOLIC CHRISTIANS, we have not only a RIGHT and a PRIVILEGE to always **defend HUMAN LIFE, each PERSON, regardless** of their social, ethnic, religious, etc., status?
- Why **CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE** teaching could help us to articulate and put into practice our CATHOLIC FAITH?