

Created in God's Image

Grades 5–8 • Religion

ADMIT ONE

NAME

DATE

CLASS

Catholic Social Teaching Principle 1 — Life and Dignity of the Human Person: Every human being is created in the image and likeness of God (*imago Dei*). This sacred dignity is the foundation of all Catholic Social Teaching. Society must be structured to protect and affirm this dignity — and any law, system, or cultural attitude that denies it is a violation of God's order.

PART 1

OI

Two scripture texts

“Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness... So God created humankind in his image.”

GENESIS 1:26–27

“You knit me together in my mother's womb... I am fearfully and wonderfully made.”

PSALM 139:13–14

What do both passages say about the source of human dignity?

02

PART 2

Apply CST to two examples

For each example below, explain how it either affirms or violates CST Principle 1:

EXAMPLE	AFFIRMS OR VIOLATES DIGNITY?	EXPLAIN USING CST LANGUAGE
Langston Hughes writing “I, Too” — claiming Black Americans belong in the national story		
Jim Crow laws requiring Black Americans to use separate facilities and preventing them from voting		
Aaron Douglas painting Black figures as noble, powerful, and spiritually significant		

03

PART 3

Reflective paragraph

Write a paragraph (5–6 sentences) responding to this question: **How did the artists, writers, and musicians of the Harlem Renaissance affirm *imago Dei* through their creative work? And what does their example ask of you?**

04

PART 4

Solidarity

CST Principle 7 — Solidarity — says we are one human family, and what affects one member affects all of us. The Harlem Renaissance happened in Harlem — but its impact was felt by all Americans.

What does solidarity require of someone who witnessed injustice but was not directly affected by it? Use one specific example from the Harlem Renaissance to illustrate your answer:

MINI MUSEUM CONNECTION

As you explore the exhibition, choose one artwork, poem, or piece of music and ask: what theological claim is this making? Write down your answer and bring it to class for discussion.

minimuseumproject.org/exhibitions/harlem-renaissance

PRAYER

Creator God, you made every person in your image. Give us the courage of the Harlem Renaissance artists — to see beauty and dignity in every face, and to insist that the world see it too. Amen.