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The role of volunteering serving the needy

Abstract

The role of volunteering serving the needy. Reading the signs of time, the Church regards the voluntary organisations as a new form of missionary activity for and of the faithful; what needs to be remarked, however, is that volunteering engages both believers and non-believers, for whom it provides an opportunity for social involvement for the benefit of a community. At present newer and newer forms of volunteering are developing at a fast speed. Especially popular are cultural, educational, ecological or even media volunteering types, which bring close difficult life problems of certain communities with a view to making others active and thus leading to an ultimate solution thereof. Also, forms of volunteering work are undergoing a process of change. The present study is an attempt at an in-depth analysis of the phenomenon of volunteering from the perspective of missionary and social involvement of people for the benefit of the whole community. Volunteering is one of the biggest chances for a humanisation of history; how the chance is going to be taken advantage of, however, is up to us.

Key words: volunteering, missionary activity, social involvement, serving people, the Catholic Church