Vocabulary for Unit 6

**capital:** The material, financial, and human resources needed to start and run a business.

**capitalism:** An economic system based upon the private ownership of goods and the free-market system.

**colonialism:** A policy by which a nation maintains or exerts its control over a foreign territory or country.

**democracy:** A governmental system in which the political power is held by the people of the state, who freely elect their leaders.

**development:** To help provide the social structures that are necessary so a person or group of people can build a life of dignity and respond to his or her vocation according to God’s call.

**free market:** A market system in which individuals and businesses are free to create and sell whatever goods and services they wish to sell at whatever price they wish to charge.

**infrastructure:** The basic facilities, services, and physical systems needed for the functioning of a community or society. Examples include public education, transportation, water supply, and energy supply systems.

**just wage:** A salary that recognizes the value of the work being performed and that is high enough to allow the laborer and his or her immediate family to live a life of human dignity. Minimally, this means a wage above the poverty line.

**labor:** Human work.

**socialism:** An economic system in which there is no private ownership of goods and the creation and distribution of goods and services is determined by the whole community or by the government.

**strike:** An organized work stoppage whereby workers refuse to work in order to gain public support and to pressure their employer to address their rights.