Justice - Media Links

*The Shawshank Redemption*

A powerful prison drama reminds us that hope is a precious and buoyant emotion that can give our lives substance and meaning.

*Contemporary Music about Hope: "I Shall Be Released" by Bob Dylan*

*Lives in the Balance: Charity or Justice*

Although most of us enjoy a standard of living that is comfortable and secure, there are many among us, who for a variety of reasons live in poverty. And there are many more whose lives are in the balance between fulfillment and indignity.

Lives in the Balance looks at these differences through the eyes of an immigrant family, a single mother and someone who relies on disability support. As you watch the video we invite you to rejoice in how human beings help each other but reflect upon what we could all do to bring greater justice to our society. Keep in mind the statement from Vatican II document: Gaudium Et Spes (On the Church in the Modern World):

"The joys and hopes, the grief and anguish of the people of our time, especially of those who are poor or afflicted, are the joys and hopes, the grief and the anguish of the followers of Christ as well."

The Ontario Conference of Catholic Bishops, Social Affairs Commission

Length: 30 min.

[http://saltandlighttv.org/prog_special_lives_in_the_balance.html](http://saltandlighttv.org/prog_special_lives_in_the_balance.html)
**Earth**

Film length: 1 hr. 30 min. Rating: G  
Director: Mark Linfield  
Genre: Nature  
Documentary

**Synopsis & Central Plot:**

Earth follows three animal families around the world, through changing seasons and a changing planet. The diversity and vivacity of our planet is highlighted, from the North Pole to Antarctica, from the forests of North America to the deserts of Africa. The audience is privy to the incredibly fragility and simultaneous robustness of life on our planet. Elephants, polar bears, and humpback whales provide a lens through which the audience experiences the harsh elements and extraordinarily precious moments of animal life. Throughout the film, humans are invisible, but our impact on the climate and natural resources is regrettably prominent.

**Main Themes to Engage through the Film:**

- The climate change crisis
- The harmony of life on our planet
- The perfection and beauty of God’s creation
- The cycles of life and death, destruction and creation
- The impact of humanity on the rest of the Earth’s living plants and creatures
- The interdependence of all life