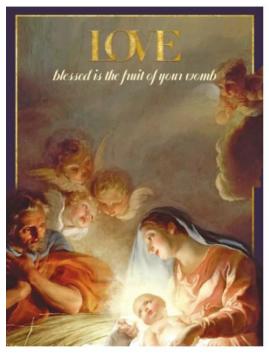
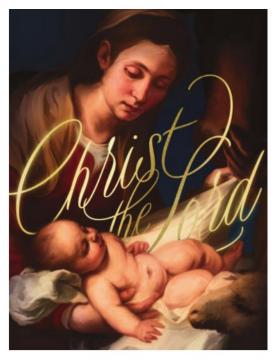
# St. Raphael Catholic Church







## 1513 Dunster Road Rockville, Maryland 20854

**December 19, 2021** 

1:00PM (español), 6:00PM (youth)

Please mail correspondence to the Parish Office 1592 Kimblewick Road, Rockville, MD 20854

Parish Phone 301-762-2143 Parish Fax 301-762-0719

Website www.straphaels.org

Rev. Michael Salah, Pastor, ext. 112

Rev. William Wadsworth, Parochial Vicar, ext. 150

Rev. Thomas Morrow, Retired, ext. 128

Deacon Jose Carbonell, ext. 187 Deacon Richard Meyer, 202-365-0913 Deacon Frank Salatto, ext. 149

Mary J. Beaudoin, Dir. Of Religious Education, ext. 124 Gerri Stoner, St. Raphael School Secretary, ext. 122 Teri Dwyer, Principal, Baptism Coordinator, ext. 121 Eileen Kutchak, Dir. of Parish Programming, ext. 110 Luisa Duarte, Spanish Coordinator, 240-864-2565 Pietro Lojacono, Assistant for Religious Education, ext. 123 Annalee McHugh, Youth Minister, 240-864-2519 Vince Natali, Dir. Of Music Ministries, 240-864-2532 Linda Poindexter, RCIA Coordinator, 240-864-2542 Elaine Salatto, Publications, Welcoming, 240-864-2513

New Parishioners: A warm welcome to St. Raphael's Catholic Church. Blue registration cards are available on the wall rack in the main entrance of the church or you may register online at: https://straphaels.org/parish-registration-form

The Parish Wide Ministry Resource List can be found on our website on the Welcome tab or under Ministries, Social Responsibility, and Documents.

#### For Life Affirming Resources:

https://adw.org/about-us/resources/pregnant-need-help/ Healing after abortion? Project Rachel 301-853-4565

Weekend Masses: Saturday: 5:00 PM Sunday: 7:00, 8:30, 10:00, 11:30AM,

Monday thru Friday: 6:30 and 9:00AM Weekday Masses:

Saturday: 9:00 AM

Penance Service: Tuesday: 7:00 PM **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:** Thursday: 9:30 AM Benediction: Thursday, 7:15PM **Divine Mercy Chaplet:** Thursday, 7:00PM

**Christmas Eve Masses:** 

4:00PM Church and Trumpet Room,

6:00PM, 8:00PM in Spanish, and 11:00PM (music prelude at 10:30)

Christmas Day: 8:30AM, 10AM, 11:30AM, 1:00PM in Spanish

Sacrament of Baptism: Parish Registration and a Baptism class is required. Please contact Teri Dwyer to register and plan to attend the class while awaiting the birth or adoption of your child.

Sacrament of Matrimony: In accord with the regulations of the Archdiocese of Washington, couples must contact a priest and begin preparation at least six months prior to the wedding. Parish registration and active participation for the minimum of three months is required before preparation may begin. Living together before marriage is sinful and harmful to the future marriage. Couples who are living together will be asked to live separately during the preparation time.

What does it mean to be an active Catholic? Frequently, those seeking to celebrate Marriage, have children baptized, or serve as sponsors for Confirmation or Baptism request a letter stating they are parishioners and active, practicing Catholics. To receive such a letter, one must be registered in the parish, attend Mass regularly, and be committed to a stewardship of time, talent, and treasure. We encourage all parishioners to become active in one of the parish organizations. In a community as large as St. Raphael, one means of verifying participation is through the regular use of parish offertory envelopes. If you choose not to participate in the support of the parish, or are unable to contribute at this time, please at least note your prayerful support on your envelope and place it in the weekly offertory. We will then be aware of your continued participation, and you will not be noted as "inactive" on our parish roster.

#### Parish Penance Service December 21 at 7:00PM with additional priests

Confessions also offered on Sunday, December 19 Monday, December 20 at 7:00PM

# The Kimblewick Road entrance will be open for all Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses.

We are most grateful to our Kimblewick neighbors.

#### Faith Direct

Your generous online donations now will help sustain our ministries that reflect God's love.

We prayerfully request that you consider signing up for eGiving from your computer, smartphone or tablet. You can set up a recurring donation or make a one-time gift.

Sign up today by visiting faith.direct/MD34. Thank you for your continued support of our parish family.

God Bless You,

Fr. Mike



\*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be held in the Parish Library on Thursday, December 23.

#### Sign up today for

An easy way to keep up with updates and changes at St. Raphael Catholic Church:

Flocknote is a tool for St. Raphael to communicate important information quickly parish-wide to our "Flock".

You can sign up for Flocknote from the St. Raphael's Home page www.straphaels.org

Bulletin notices may be emailed to: **esalatto@ straphaels.org**. Due to early holiday deadlines this bulletin was transmitted on December 10.

Mass Schedule and Intentions for the Week		
	Mond	lay, December 20
6:30AM 9:00AM	Joseph Vassallo (d) Catherine McGinis (d)	
	Tuesd	day, December 21
6:30AM 9:00AM	Michael May (d) Catherine Dirlam (d)	
Wednesday, December 22		
6:30AM 9:00AM	Bryce Dickgieser (d) Cristina Montes (d)	
Thursday, December 23		
6:30AM 9:00AM	Raymond Timm (d) Diane Heim (d)	
Friday, December 24		
6:30AM 9:00AM	Judy Palum Jose	bo Walker (d)
2:00PM 4:00PM Ch 4:00PM TR 6:00PM 8:00PM Sp 11:00PM	Fr. Mike Fr. Mike Fr. Tom Fr. Tom Fr. Bill	Christmas Eve Masses Marilyn Renick Irene & John Schwemberger (d) Araceli Moreno (d) Verme & Fulbright Families (d) John Cookenias (d) Robert Stovall (d)
Saturday, December 25 Christmas Day		
8:30AM 10:00AM 11:30AM 1:00PMSp	Fr. Mike Fr. Tom Fr. Bill	Lopez Family (d) Costa & Beaty Families (d) Elizabeth & Alexander Aino (d) Members of the Parish
The		ay, December 26 of Jesus, Mary and Joseph
7:00AM 8:30AM 10:00AM 11:30AM	Fr. Mike Fr. Tom Fr. Tom	Angela Lee & Olivia Herro Lawrence J. Stark (d) Linda Hacker (d) James Yang (d) Miguel Martinez (d)

The priest schedule is subject to change.

#### \*Live-streamed Masses:

6:00PM Fr. Bill

Daily, 6:30AM and Saturday, 9:00AM, Sunday, 11:30AM, 1:00PM

Youtube channel can be found at: www.straphaels.org

Low Gluten Hosts that are approved by the Catholic Church for the Holy Eucharist are offered at the time of Communion. The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion offering these Hosts will be standing near the statue of the Blessed Virgin Mary at all the Masses.

Members of the Parish

#### Vicar's Verbiage

What's in a name? Dear Friends,

Juliet asks that question in Shakespeare's great tragedy *Romeo and Juliet*. She continues, "That by which we call a rose/ By any other name would smell as sweet." (Act 2, Scene 2) She's lamenting the fact that she can't be with the man she loves because of his family name. So, what does it matter? Its just a name!

Well, to respectfully disagree with Ms. Capulet, names actually are quite important, especially if we are considering them in light of the Scriptures. Names meant more to the Ancients than just a random bunch of sounds or scrawls; they provided a way for people to enter into a relationship with each other.

If you look at the Bible, names are important from the very beginning when the man names all the animals. We hear of occurrences when names are changed of different people when a new mission is given (such as Abram to Abraham; or Saul to Paul).

Perhaps most spectacularly God reveals his own name to Moses at the burning bush: YHWH, I am who am. It's a name that expresses movement, action. God is. The Lord doesn't want to remain hidden, far away, remote, unknown. He wants to get to know you!

If you open up the Bible to the beginning of the New Testament (The Gospel of Matthew) you are confronted with dozens of names! A long list of people stretching back all the way to the beginning of humanity. Some people pass over this section but its really neat just to sit with this for a while and think about what it means. It's a history of salvation. We see the whole of history leading up to the moment when Jesus would be born. Saints and sinners, good people, bad people and everything in between. It also shows us that Jesus didn't just appear out of nowhere. God was preparing us for that moment for centuries.

This week, as we get ready for Christmas and the celebration of Jesus (whose name means YHWH saves), think about the fact that we know God's name so that means he wants to get to know us. He wants to be familiar with us, to have a relationship with you! Will you tell him your name so that a friendship can develop? Its always good to remind God we're here (just like its good to remind your priests of your names because we want to know you too!).

Have a blessed and holy Christmas and may the Child of Bethlehem bring peace and happiness to you and your families! And don't eat too much!

Fr Bill



FOR SINGLE CATHOLICS - 22nd Annual Epiphany Party at St. Raphael Church, 1513 Dunster Rd., Rockville, MD 20854; Saturday, January 8, starting at 7:00 PM. Includes delicious Ledo's lasagna dinner, salsa dance lessons, complementary wine and beer, DJ, and more. Send \$21 check donation by December 28 to SCS Epiphany Party, St. Raphael, 1590 Kimblewick Rd., Rockville, MD 20854, Or \$23 by credit card at <a href="https://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=AJLD5F4VY43NE">https://www.paypal.com/biz/fund?id=AJLD5F4VY43NE</a>; (\$27 cash, card or check at the door.) For more info. call 240-426-5589.

# RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Do you want to learn more about the Catholic Church? Or even about becoming a Catholic? "No Strings Attached!"

Are you a Catholic who has been "away" or seeking Confirmation?

We want to help you and will work out a way to do that!

We will meet on a Sunday morning schedule in the Youth Center from 9:45-11:15AM. Please join us on this journey. Our schedule is to meet on December 19. We will **not** meet on December 26 and January 2.

Contact Linda Poindexter, 240-864-2542 <u>Ipoindexter@straphaels.org</u>

#### We need your help!

The Usher Ministry is in need of volunteers for all weekend masses. Duties and responsibilities currently include ensuring an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion brings the Eucharist to parishioners who are not able to comfortably or safely walk the communion line, safeguarding the offertory and special collections after mass, general tidying of the pews, and promoting a sense of welcoming and belonging to all the faithful assembled for worship. The Ministry of Hospitality is truly a service to the Church and is a great opportunity to serve with very little time commitment required. This is an ideal ministry for families to serve together.

Please contact Terry Salsgiver at 301-437-2018 or tsalsgiver@comcast.net.

#### St. Raphael Honor Roll

Please pray for those serving in our armed forces, those wounded in body and spirit, and for those families who have suffered loss.

Daniel Bertrand Del Bianco, USN (d) and family LT Victor H. Esch, III, USA CPT Paul D Galvin E-3/HN Colleen Gardella Robert Garret, US Army MP Taylor Hardy, AE USN Ens. Andrew Hayes, USN Captain Julia Timm Intili, USAF Jake Klosowski, USNA LT COL Todd Lennon, USAF Captain Frank Lowery, USN Commander Mike McNally, USN Charles McTavish, USA Ens. Zachary Poindexter, USN 2LT Dan Quackenbush 1LT Will Quackenbush, USA 2LT Benedict Ray, USMC LT Paul Schauppner, USN LT James Sheets (USN)



Changes: e-mail esalatto@straphaels.org

2nd LT Andrew Valentine USMA

LT Kenneth Yale, USAF



Readings for the Week of December 19, 2021

Sunday Fourth Sunday of Advent

Mi 5:1-4a; Ps 80:2-3, 15-16, 18-19;

Heb 10:5-10; Lk 1:39-45

Monday
Tuesday

Is 7:10-14; Ps 24:1-2, 3-4ab, 5-6; Lk 1:26-38
Saint Peter Canisius, Priest and Doctor of the

Church

Sg 2:8-14 or Zep 3:14-18a; Ps 33:2-3, 11-12,

20-21; Lk 1:39-45

Wednesday 1 Sm 1:24-28; 1 Sm 2:1, 4-5, 6-7, 8abcd;

Lk 1:46-56

Thursday Saint John of Kanty, Priest

Mal 3:1-4, 23-24; Ps 25:4-5ab, 8-9, 10 and 14;

Lk 1:57-66

**Friday** 2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16; Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27

and 29; Lk 1:67-79

**Vigil:** Is 62:1-5; Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29; Acts 13:16-17, 22-25; Mt 1:1-25 or Mt 1:18-25

Saturday The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

Night: Is 9:1-6; Ps 96:1-2, 2-3, 11-12, 13;

Ti 2:11-14; Lk 2:1-14

**Dawn:** Is 62:11-12; Ps 97:1, 6, 11-12; Ti 3:4-7;

Lk 2:15-20

**Day:** Is 52:7-10; Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18 or Jn 1:1-5, 9-14

Sunday Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and

Joseph

Sir 3:2-6, 12-14 or 1 Sm 1:20-22, 24-28; Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5 or Ps 84:2-3, 5-6, 9-10; Col 3:12-21 or Col 3:12-17 or 1 Jn 3:1-2, 21-24;

Lk 2:41-52





# Christmas Eve Masses Friday, December 24, 2021

2:00PM

4:00PM Church and Trumpet Room
6:00 PM
8:00PM in Spanish

11:00PM (music prelude at 10:30PM)

Christmas Day Masses
Saturday, December 25, 2021
8:30AM, 10:00AM, 11:30AM,
1:00PM in Spanish

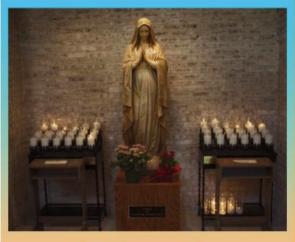
**No Confessions on Saturday, December 25** 

Masses Sunday, December 26
The Holy family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph



7:00AM, 8:30AM, 10:00AM, 11:30AM, 1:00PM in Spanish, 6:00PM

#### **FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**





Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God

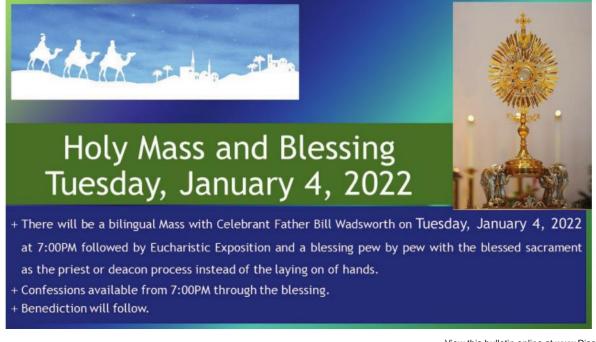
Vigil Mass, Friday, December 31 5:00PM

9:00 AM 11:30 AM 1:00 PM in Spanish

The Solemnity falls on a Saturday this year, there is no obligation to attend mass, but we welcome you to join us for one of the masses to be celebrated for this special day.

#### Did you know?

- ⇒ You can stay and say the Rosary Monday thru Friday following the 9:00 AM Mass.
- ⇒ On Tuesday evenings at 6:45PM, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Confessions at 7PM, 7:30PM, the Miraculous Medal Novena and Chaplet of Divine Mercy followed by Benediction.
- ⇒ First Tuesday of every month, Mass followed by Blessing at 7:00PM, Confessions at 7PM through Mass
- ⇒ Thursdays after 9:00 AM Mass, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament all day, Chaplet of Divine Mercy at 7PM, 7:15PM Benediction. May and October Rosary at 6:40PM
- ⇒ First Friday of every month, Spanish Holy Hour, 7:30 PM, in church
- ⇒ First Saturday Devotions every month, 9:00AM Mass, meditation and rosary





# **Celebrating the Feast of St. Nicholas**



In Advent, as we prepare to receive Jesus, we have a great deal to celebrate along the way to Christmas. A surprise visit from St. Nick; collecting gifts for the residents of Raphael House; supporting those less fortunate; and decking the halls of the school.















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## The Fourth Sunday of Advent



## Blessing of a Christmas Manger

In its present form the custom of displaying figures depicting the birth of Jesus Christ owes its origin to St. Francis of Assisi, who made the Christmas crèche or manger for Christmas Eve of 1223.

The blessing of the Christmas manger or nativity scene may take place on the Vigil of Christmas or at another suitable time.

When the manger is set up in the home, it is appropriate that it be blessed by a parent or another family member.

All make the sign of the cross as the leader says:

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

R/. Who made heaven and earth.

One of those present or the leader reads a text of sacred Scripture, for example, Luke 2:1 (lines 1-8) or Isaiah 7:10 (lines 10-15, the birth of Emmanuel).

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

R/. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The leader prays with hands joined:

God of every nation and people,

from the very beginning of creation

you have made manifest your love:

when our need for a Savior was great

you sent your Son to be born of the Virgin

Mary.

To our lives he brings joy and peace,

justice, mercy, and love.

Lord,

bless all who look upon this manger;

may it remind us of the humble birth of Jesus,

and raise our thoughts to him,

who is God-with-us and Savior of all,

and who lives and reigns forever and ever.

R/. Amen.



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## Religious Education Mary Beaudoin, 202-294-7697



#### **Resources for Celebrating Advent at Home**

Find inspiration, prayers, and resources for Advent (books, calendars, Jesse Tree, arts and crafts, and other activities) at Loyola Press Catholic Resources: <a href="https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/advent/">https://www.loyolapress.com/catholic-resources/liturgical-year/advent/</a>



#### St. Raphael Religious Education (SRRE)

SRRE offers ongoing faith formation for all children and teens, as well as preparation for sacraments. Each year of faith formation is designed to deepen relationships with Jesus and his Church through focus on what we believe, why we celebrate the sacraments, how we pray, and how we live.

If you have questions about religious education or sacrament preparation for your child, please contact Mary Beaudoin, Director of Religious Education.

#### **Religious Education and Sacrament Calendar**

December 19-20 SRRE Classes meet December 26-27 No SRRE Classes January 2-3 SRRE Classes resume January 16-17 No SRRE Classes January 23-24 SRRE Classes Resume February 20-21 No SRRE Classes February 27-28 SRRE Classes Resume February 2 and 12 First Penance March 19 First Eucharist Family Retreat Morning April 10-11, 17-18 No SRRE Classes April 24-25 SRRE Classes Resume May 7 First Communion Masses, 11:00 AM and 1:00 PM May 9 last day of SRRE Classes

#### Catechists, This Prayer Is for You!

Confirmation Masses at 10:30 AM and 1:00 PM

The Pope Video is an official global initiative with the purpose of disseminating the Holy Father's monthly prayer intentions. It is carrie out by the Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network (Apostleship of Prayer). <a href="mailto:thepopevideo.org">thepopevideo.org</a>

In the last <u>Pope Video</u> of 2021, Pope Francis centers his message on the ministry, mission and vocation of catechists, thanking them for their enthusiasm for transmitting the faith, and encouraging them to proclaim the Gospel with new languages and in new ways.

#### https://thepopevideo.org/december-catechists/

May 21

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network is a Vatican foundation, with the mission of mobilizing Catholics through prayer and action in response to the challenges facing humanity and the mission of the Church. These challenges are presented in the form of prayer intentions entrusted by the Pope to the entire Church.

#### An Encyclical for All Brothers and Sisters



In his most recent encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti*, Pope Francis invites us to consider how we are called "in the face of present-day attempts to eliminate or ignore others" to respond "with a new vision of fraternity and social friendship that will not remain at the level of words." This week we begin Chapter 4: A Heart Open to the Whole World."

128. If the conviction that all human beings are brothers and sisters is not to remain an abstract idea but to find concrete embodiment, then numerous related issues emerge, forcing us to see things in a new light and to develop new responses.

#### **Borders and Their Limits**

129. Complex challenges arise when our neighbor happens to be an immigrant. Ideally, unnecessary migration ought to be avoided; this entails creating in countries of origin the conditions needed for a dignified life and integral development. Yet until substantial progress is made in achieving this goal, we are obliged to respect the right of all individuals to find a place that meets their basic needs and those of their families, and where they can find personal fulfilment. Our response to the arrival of migrating persons can be summarized by four words: welcome, protect, promote and integrate. For "it is not a case of implementing welfare programs from the top down, but rather of undertaking a journey together, through these four actions, in order to build cities and countries that, while preserving their respective cultural and religious identity, are open to differences and know how to promote them in the spirit of human fraternity."

130. This implies taking certain indispensable steps, especially in response to those who are fleeing grave humanitarian crises. As examples, we may cite: increasing and simplifying the granting of visas; adopting programs of individual and community sponsorship; opening humanitarian corridors for the most vulnerable refugees; providing suitable and dignified housing; guaranteeing personal security and access to basic services; ensuring adequate consular assistance and the right to retain personal identity documents; equitable access to the justice system; the possibility of opening bank accounts and the guarantee of the minimum needed to survive; freedom of movement and the possibility of employment; protecting minors and ensuring their regular access to education; providing for programs of temporary guardianship or shelter; guaranteeing religious freedom; promoting integration into society; supporting the reuniting of families; and preparing local communities for the process of integration.

-Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti #128, #129, #130



#### Caring for God's Creation – A Plan That Calls for Solidarity

In his encyclical Laudato Si' (Care for Our Common Home), Pope Francis calls us to embrace integral ecology. This concept states that "everything is closely related" and that "today's problems call for a vision capable of taking into account every aspect of the global crisis." The Archdiocese of Washington developed a <u>Laudato Si' Action Plan</u> with easy to advanced ways for us to exercise stewardship over God's creation. The plan names seven markers that help to measure the implementation of Laudato Si'. The fourth

4: Adoption of a Simple Lifestyle: In Laudato Si', we are called to adopt a prayerful and intentional approach to our purchases, and to be mindful of the toll our choices have on God's creation and the world we live in. Laudato Si' calls us to live more simply. There are many ways to live more simply that foster care for creation. For example, living simply can include buying less goods, purchasing re-usable products to reduce single use plastics, using plant-based home cleaners and consuming more in-season fruits and vegetables over meat- based meals. Another way to live simply is to use what Pope Francis calls the "circular economy of materials." The circular economy of materials includes the trading, exchanging, and donation of office, home, and personal items within our communities. Possible actions for individuals, families, parishes and

schools: ☐ Cut down or eliminate single-use plastic (such as

☐ Buy less non-essentials (easy)

water bottles) (easy)

- ☐ Cut down or eliminate foam-based food containers (easy)
- ☐ Encourage recycling (easy to moderate)
- ☐ An initiative of the The Laudato Si' Movement, LiveLaudatoSi' is a guide produced to encourage Catholics to consider the implications of their actions. Here are 10 ideas identified to live more simply from the The Laudato Si' Movement: (easy to moderate)
  - packaging; support businesses that pay fair
  - Eat intentionally: go meat-free, buy local and inseason fruits and vegetables, or try growing your
  - possible, bring your own bags ▷ Share more: such as a yard or house equipment, share your time by finding ways to volunteer or support community groups.
  - Drive less: share a vehicle for grocery trips. Bike, walk, or use public transportation when possible.
  - Nurture your relationships.
  - ➤ Take quality time for yourself.
  - Examine your lifestyle for waste.
  - ▶ Take time to pray and give thanks.
- Implement an ecological purchasing system (moderate)
  - Purchase only products that are fair-trade or sustainably produced (easy- moderate)
  - > Purchase office supplies made from natural, recycled, or recyclable materials (moderate)

"Purchasing is always a moral—and not simply economic act." (LS 206).





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Maureen Collins McHugh ~ parishioner

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