



BALANCING **FAITH & WORK** PROGRAM
RENEW INTERNATIONAL



CENTER FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES

TO: IBC AND MICAH PARTICIPANTS

SUBJECT: GLOBAL ECONOMY REBOOT:

APPLYING CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHING TODAY

DATE: FEBRUARY 2022

February 2022 Meeting

- **Welcome and Self-Introductions**
- **Ignatian Business Chapters Mission Statement**
 - The mission of the Ignatian Business Chapters is to establish and lead a national and international network of business executives to explore their respective religious traditions in order to help the individual executives:
 - integrate faith, family, and professional life
 - develop a corporate culture that is reflective of their religious faith and values
 - exercise a beneficial influence upon society at large
 - The chapters, grounded in the Roman Catholic tradition, welcome believers who are open to and respectful of one another's religious tradition. They are committed to the conviction that ethics and values grow out of one's religious heritage.

Scripture Reading: Ecclesiastes 7:15-25

In my vain life I have seen everything; there are righteous people who perish in their righteousness, and there are wicked people who prolong their life in their evildoing. Do not be too righteous, and do not act too wise; why should you destroy yourself? Do not be too wicked, and do not be a fool; why should you die before your time? It is good that you should take hold of the one, without letting go of the other; for the one who fears God shall succeed with both. Wisdom gives strength to the wise more than ten rulers that are in a city. Surely there is no one on earth so righteous as to do good without ever sinning. Do not give heed to everything that people say, or you may hear your servant cursing you; your heart knows that many times you have yourself cursed others. All this I have tested by wisdom; I said, "I will be wise," but it was far from me. That which is, is far off, and deep, very deep; who can find it out? I turned my mind to know and to search out and to seek wisdom and the sum of things, and to know that wickedness is folly and that foolishness is madness.

Quiet Reflection: Five minutes followed by sharing insights

Articles: ["The Fallen Idol: A Catholic alternative to neoliberalism" by Anthony Annett, Commonweal, January 3, 2022](#)

Be Attentive: As we have participated in the political economy of the last 40 years were you aware of the shifts taking place from a post WWII economy to a post Reagan economy? As beneficiaries now, how are you feeling?

Be Intelligent: Anthony Annett states, "neoliberalism has failed." Do you agree with this assessment? Do you see how Catholic Social Teaching could play a role in the re-ordering of our culture?

Be Reasonable: Does neoliberalism end in authoritarianism? And how would Catholic Social Teaching and democratic principles circumvent the "socialism" label. What do you think of the policy proposals in the last page of the article to meet the challenges of our times? Reasonable?

Be Responsible: What were key insights that surfaced in today's discussion? Any food for further contemplation? Any action steps? What are the implications for you at work, in your community and at home? Leverage the conversation for good!

Closing Prayer:

Above all, trust in the slow work of God.

We are quite naturally impatient in everything to reach the end without delay.

We should like to skip the intermediate stages.

We are impatient of being on the way to something unknown, something new.

And yet it is the law of all progress that it is made by passing through some stages of instability –

And that it may take a very long time.

And so I think it is with you; your ideas mature gradually—let them grow,

Let them shape themselves, without undue haste.

Don't try to force them on, as though you could be today what time

(that is to say, grace and circumstances acting on your own good will) will make of you tomorrow.

Only God could say what this new spirit gradually forming within you will be.

Give Our Lord the benefit of believing that his hand is leading you,

And accept the anxiety of feeling yourself in suspense and incomplete.

--Teilhard de Chardin

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen