

**To All Beloved Ministries of the Catholic Church of St. Ann,**

**Grace and peace be with you all!**

As stewards of God's magnificent creation, we are called to care for our common home with diligence and love. In his encyclical *Laudato Si'*, Pope Francis reminds us of our profound responsibility to protect the Earth, our shared garden, for current and future generations. This divine mandate compels us to examine our daily practices and strive for greater sustainability in all that we do.

It is with this spirit that I am delighted to introduce a parish-wide **Zero-Waste Initiative** for all ministries and users of our facilities. This initiative is not merely about composting and recycling; it's a holistic approach to minimize our environmental footprint by rethinking our consumption, reducing waste at its source, and fostering a culture of mindful stewardship within our community and beyond. By embracing zero-waste principles, we embody our faith's teachings on justice, solidarity, and the integrity of creation.

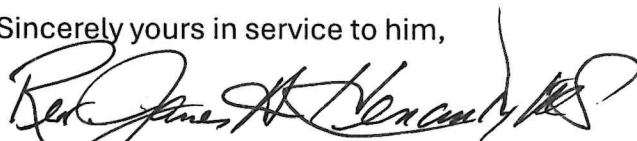
### **Understanding Our Zero-Waste Commitment**

Our goal is to significantly reduce the amount of waste we send to landfills, reflecting our commitment to God's creation. This will require a conscious effort from each ministry, but I am confident that, with God's grace and our collective dedication, we can achieve remarkable results.

To guide our efforts, please adhere to the attached policy, which will be instrumental in the success of our Zero-Waste Initiative.

If you have any questions, or need any assistance on implementing our Zero-Waste program, please don't hesitate to contact either Shannon Zdancewicz [szdancewicz@st-ann.org](mailto:szdancewicz@st-ann.org) or Daisy Whiting [dwhiting@st-ann.org](mailto:dwhiting@st-ann.org).

Sincerely yours in service to him,



Father James Henault  
Pastor