

## Zero Waste Policy for Ministries Using LaSalette Hall and Kitchen

7/2/2025

### Why have we implemented Zero Waste at St. Ann?

*Implementing zero waste is a meaningful way to live out the Church's teachings on creation care, particularly emphasized in Pope Francis' encyclical Laudato Si'. It's about meeting our goal, as stewards of God's creation, to dramatically reduce the amount of waste going into landfills.*

### Foundational Principles (Catholic Perspective)

- **Laudato Si' and Integral Ecology:** The encyclical calls for an "ecological conversion" and highlights the interconnectedness of environmental and social issues. Waste reduction directly addresses the "culture of waste" Pope Francis speaks of.
- **Stewardship of Creation:** Catholics are called to be good stewards of God's gifts, including the Earth and its resources. This means using them wisely and not exploiting them.

### Zero Waste Policy For LaSalette Hall and Kitchen

- **Use of dishes and cutlery**
  - Indoor Events should make use of the china and glasses stored in the kitchen. Access the dishes located in a rolling storage container under the coffee station. If more dishes are needed, use those located under the dishwashing station. Extra china serving-ware can be found in the Dry Storage Closet.
  - Outdoor Events should make use of the black plastic dishes, multiple sizes are available, and they can be found on the shelves to the right of the door in the Dry Storage Closet. Compostable cutlery that is BPI certified
  - Cutlery is located in the Dry Storage Closet on shelves on the back right side, next to the black lockers. Large Tablespoons (for Serving) are located in a metal bin on the bottom of the shelves.

### Waste Segregation and Collection Procedures:

- **Food Waste (Kitchen and Hall):** Place in designated 5-gallon "Food waste buckets." Buckets contain a small green liner (supplied by the parish).
- **Food Waste Small Bag Disposal:** Place in the **smaller "COMPOSTNOW"** bin/s located on the loading dock.
- **Compostable Cups, Flatware, and Pizza Boxes:** Place these items in the **bigger "COMPOSTNOW"** bins residing on the loading dock.
- **Liquid Waste:** Red Bucket (no bag insert, should be rinsed when event is completed) for leftover coffee, Tang, and other drinks (dispose when half full). ***Do not empty liquids into food waste bag.***

### Supply and Responsibility

- **Parish Supplied Items:**
  - The parish will supply all necessary green compostable bags (small for food waste, large for other compostables, including pizza boxes).

### Dishwashing

- Ongoing dishwashing is needed to keep up, both using dishwasher and washing pots by hand.

- The dishwasher should be turned on when you arrive.
- Just close the cover and hit the button to start (it takes 30 minutes to heat).
- Three types of trays exist for washing: 1) plates 2) glasses 3) cups or cutlery
- Items are sanitized when completed, do not dry with towels or paper towels, they must air dry.

### **Floors and Shelves**

- Floors should be swept during clean up.
- All counters and shelves should be disinfected with Lysol spray; it is available on the shelf over the triple sinks.

### **Approved Alternatives for Disposable Items:**

- **Compostable Products:** BPI Certified Compostable plates, cups, and flatware are permitted as an alternative to washable dishware. These items will be purchased by the ministry using the kitchen and/or hall.
- **Certification Requirement:** All compostable products must be clearly marked as 'BPI Certified' (Biodegradable Products Institute certified). This ensures they meet standards for industrial composting.
- **Exceptions with stipulations:**
  - When plastic bottles or aluminum cans are used at the event, they must be taken off premise and disposed of by event organizers.
  - **Event Owner Responsibility:** The event sponsors are solely responsible for collecting these items, removing them from St. Ann property, and ensuring they are recycled appropriately off-site. The parish will *not* manage the recycling of these specific items.

### **Corrugated Cardboard Disposal**

- A dumpster accepting only corrugated cardboard is located at the foot of the loading dock. All boxes should be broken down before placing them in the dumpster.

### **Glass Disposal**

- Glass recycling bins are located behind the Whole Foods at Merchants Walk shopping center, 1311 Johnson Ferry Rd NE, Marietta