



BALANCING **FAITH & WORK** PROGRAM
RENEW INTERNATIONAL



IBO IGNATIAN
BUSINESS CHAPTERS

SETON HALL UNIVERSITY™

1 8 5 6

CENTER FOR CATHOLIC STUDIES

TO: IBC AND MICAH PARTICIPANTS

SUBJECT: THE BLUE-COLLAR STRUGGLE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

DATE: NOVEMBER 2021

November 2021 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: Wisdom 7:7-11

Therefore, I prayed, and understanding was given me;

I called upon God, and the spirit of wisdom came to me.

I preferred her to scepters and thrones,

and I accounted wealth as nothing in comparison with her.

Neither did I liken to her any priceless gem,

because all gold is but a little sand in her sight,

and silver will be accounted as clay before her.

I loved her more than health and beauty,

and I chose to have her rather than light,

because her radiance never ceases.

All good things came to me along with her,
and in her hands uncounted wealth.

Quiet Reflection: Five minutes followed by sharing insights

Articles: "[What Killed the Blue-Collar Struggle for Social Justice,](#)" *opinion column by Farah Stockman, The New York Times, October 7, 2021*

Be Attentive: Farah Stockman has introduced in this article personal stories from the factory floor? How were you affected by the stories?

Be Intelligent: How do you see the college-educated versus blue-collar tension? How did the fight for jobs by women and people of color exemplify the work of social justice?

Be Reasonable: How does the college versus blue-collar tension reflect the tension within the shareholder versus stakeholder approach to ethics? What values dominate? Are we seeing the long-term effects of short-term thinking as the final paragraphs suggest?

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

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