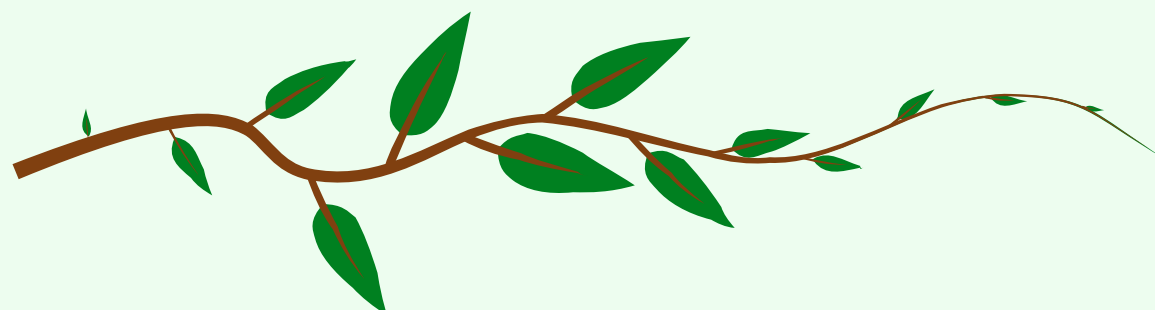


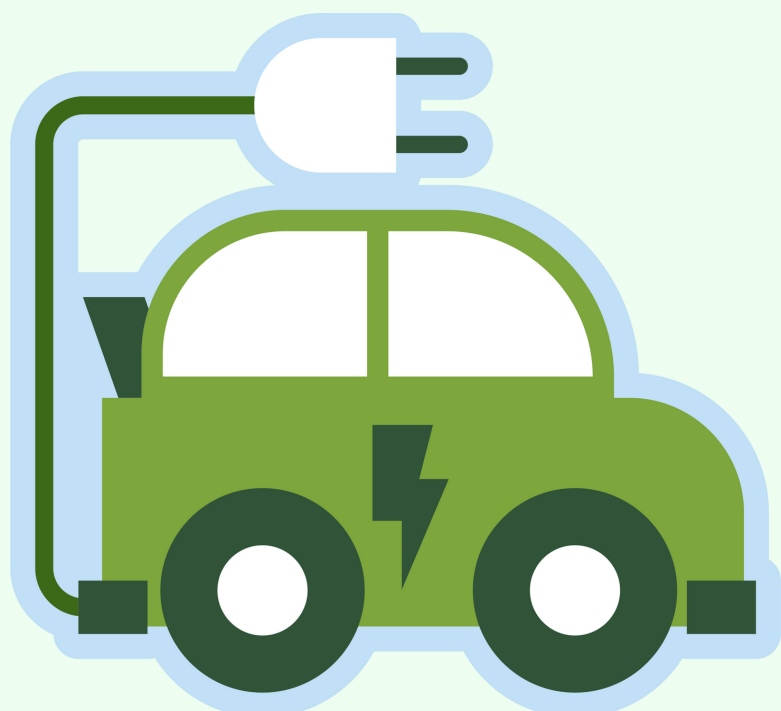
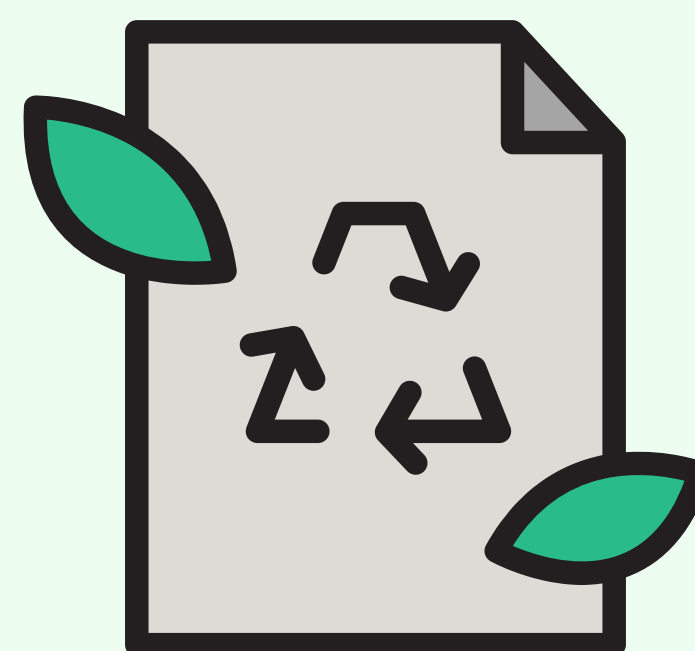
As Marianist groups, we look to Mary as a model of bringing Christ to the world, through Prayer, Community Life, Mission, and Discipleship of Equals. The guidelines are continuously be improved upon, and feedback is welcomed. Please refer to *Laudato Si'* for a more in-depth understanding. Keep in mind:

- Be mindful and intentional
- Lead by example
- Don't strive for perfection - strive for what is appropriate, realistic, inclusive and sustainable
- See the connection: the cry of earth & the poor are interlocked
- Educate & share with others
- Be aware of choices that may exclude groups or people
- Take time to plan & orient groups with processes (trash separation, water fill stations, etc.)



1 Communication

- Digitize as much as possible but be aware of varying levels of digital skills/equipment
- When print materials are used, print on both sides, reuse or use recycled materials/paper

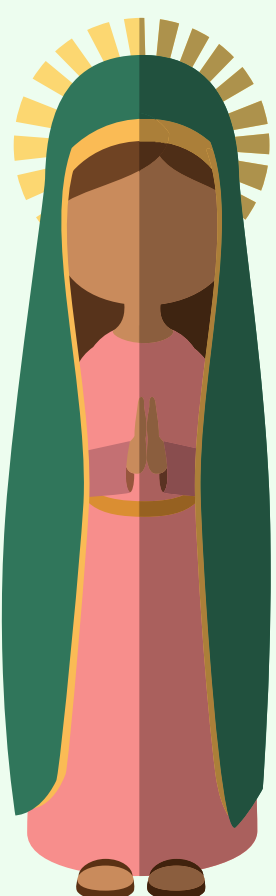
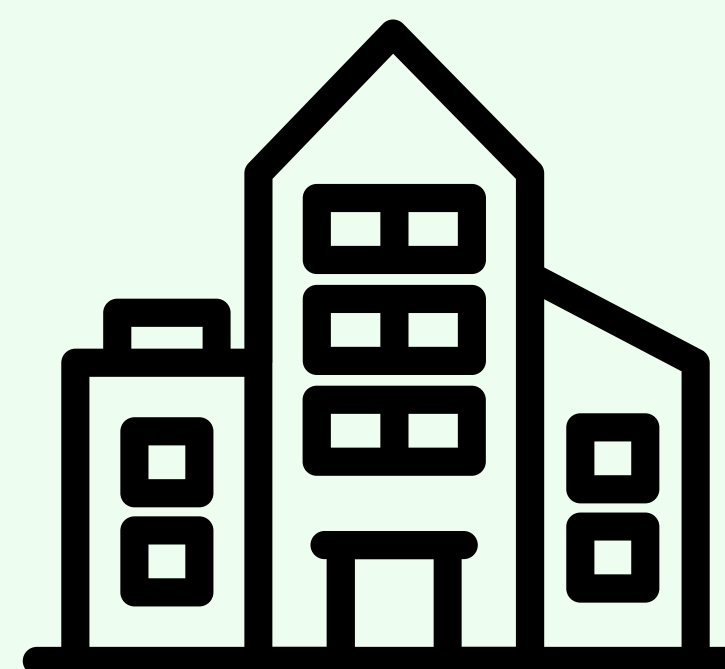


2 Travel

- When possible, choose a location that doesn't require much travel
- For local meetings encourage carpooling, public transportation, walking, and biking...
- For distant meetings consider the energy impact of car/plane travel. Is online appropriate?

3 Facility

- Assess energy use during meetings such as heating, cooling, lighting, charging stations.
- When using a hotel/retreat center, etc. ask about their sustainability policies. Can they minimize waste like travel-size plastic bottles, turn-down service, etc.?



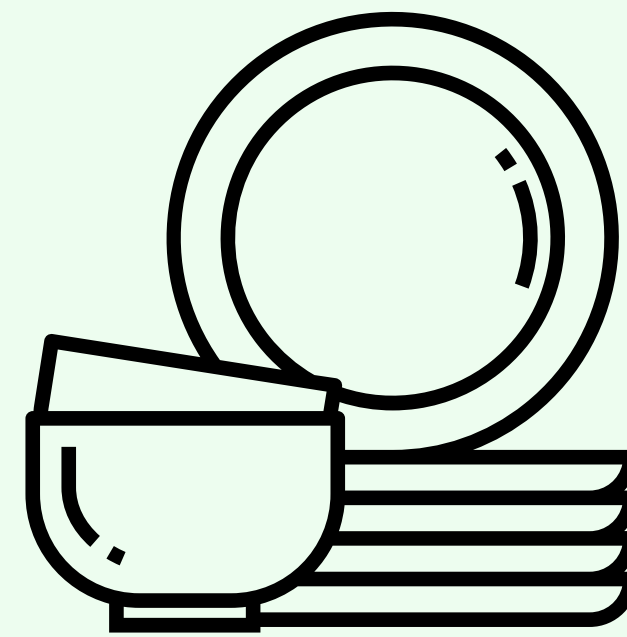
4 Prayer

- As always, we meet in the spirit of God as creator of all life and nature. In addition to planned prayer as a group gathers, throughout our meetings be attentive to moments when we need to call ourselves back to mindfulness and awareness of being in sacred space.



5 Meeting Supplies

- Minimize unnecessary paper (see #1) and single use products (especially plastics)
- Maximize reusable products such as water dispensers, washable cups, plates, utensils...
- Use what you have, borrow and purchase second-hand for items when necessary (avoid purchases when possible)



6 Food & Beverage

- Support local food and businesses, choose seasonal menus (minimizes transport)
- Maximize non-animal products, offer vegetarian, vegan etc.
- Use Fair Trade / Ethically-sourced products (coffee, tea, nuts, etc.)
- Encourage people to bring their own reusable water bottle
- Reduce food waste and/or arrange how to donate leftovers



7 Recycling and Waste

- Provide separate trash cans for recyclables and garbage (ideally compostable also). Know where to take each after the meeting. Be trash sensitive as methane accumulates from landfills.
- Refuse single-use plastic when possible and request reusable options
- Offer package-free options



8 Enriching Environmental Resources

- When appropriate and possible, connect with local resources and indigenous people for enrichment.
- Consider eco-related service/prayer activity in free time.
- Marianist Environmental Education Center (MEEC) <https://meec.center/>
- Global Stewards comprehensive eco-resources list <https://www.globalstewards.org/index.htm>

9 The Bigger Picture

- Consider social justice issues in organizing meetings (location, facility, labor issues, following local environmental/cultural protocols, etc.)
- Consider Carbon Offset options when carbon use is unavoidable (i.e., air travel). For examples see Energy Intelligence Center (EIC) <https://www.eic.co.uk/4-types-of-carbon-offset-projects/>

