

ST. THOMAS à BECKET CHURCH  
Care for Our Common Home Ministry  
December 10, 2019 Minutes

First Annual Holiday Potluck Brunch – held in Church Hall

OPENING PRAYER: Prayer for All Creation from Global Catholic Climate Movement

PRESENT: Kate Bushelman, Helen Dickey, Liz Eckl, Carol Even, Barbara Ewalt, Harriet Hanlon, Patti Kaiser, Linn Mitchell, Beebe and John Stroik, Bob Ruediseli, Gary Voegele

NEWS TO USE:

1. Climate emergency is the Oxford Dictionary's "word of the year" for 2019.
2. Pope Francis wants to add the sin against ecology to the Catholic Catechism.
3. Virginia ranks 17 of all US states in solar energy generation and 41 in wind energy generation.
4. 16,505 electric vehicles were sold in Virginia in the past ten years.
5. There is a new 350 Fairfax Plastic-Free Holiday Challenge.
6. Mom's Organic Market provides free tire inflation for the holidays and will recycle holiday lights for free.

RECYCLING: Recycling information sheet from St. John Neumann could be made available in the Library and on the Welcome table.

SHREDDING: paper shredding is provided by the County – limited to only 4 boxes of confidential materials. Last March an event was held in Reston near the Human Services Building. In January, the County will announce this year's event. TV Channel 4 announces shredding events. Some realtors also do local programs. Our new local Supervisor, Walter Alcorn, may follow Cathy Hudgins example by setting up the shredding for Reston.

GUEST SPEAKER: Tom Blackburn, President of the Northern Virginia Audubon Society, presented "Climate Change and Feeding Birds in Winter".

NEXT MEETING: Our next meeting will be held Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am in Room 5.

CLOSING POEM: Wendell Berry "Sabbaths 2001, III"