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Vocation of the Business Leader

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VOCATION OF THE BUSINESS LEADER

Dicastery for Promoting
Integral Human Development

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DIVIDED LIFE

[T]he split between the faith which many profess and their daily lives . . . is one of the more serious errors of our age
(Vocation of the Business Leader quoting Second Vatican Council).

INTEGRATION NOT JUST BALANCE

GIVING AND RECEIVING express the complementarity of the active and contemplative life. These two fundamental dimensions of our lives call not principally for balancing, but for a profound integration born of the realization that we need God, and that God has done great things for us.



Caravaggio, *Calling of Matthew*, c. 1599-1600 (Contarelli Chapel, San Luigi dei Francesi, Rome), copy hangs above the fireplace in St. Thomas Center for Catholic Studies' Sitzmann Hall, St. Paul, Minn.

THE LOGIC OF GIFT

From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked (Lk 12:48).



DICASTERY FOR PROMOTING INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT



VOCATION of
the BUSINESS LEADER:
A REFLECTION



WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDERS

- We do not define profits as the *purpose* of the company, but we do recognize that reasonable profitability is necessary to continue in business and to reach our full potential.
- We see profits in much the same way that you could view food in your personal life.
- You probably do not define food or eating as the *purpose* of your life, but recognize that it is essential to maintain your health and strength so you can realize your real *purpose*.

WHAT IS THE GOOD BUSINESS DOES?



GOOD WORK

Organizing work where employees develop their gifts and talents

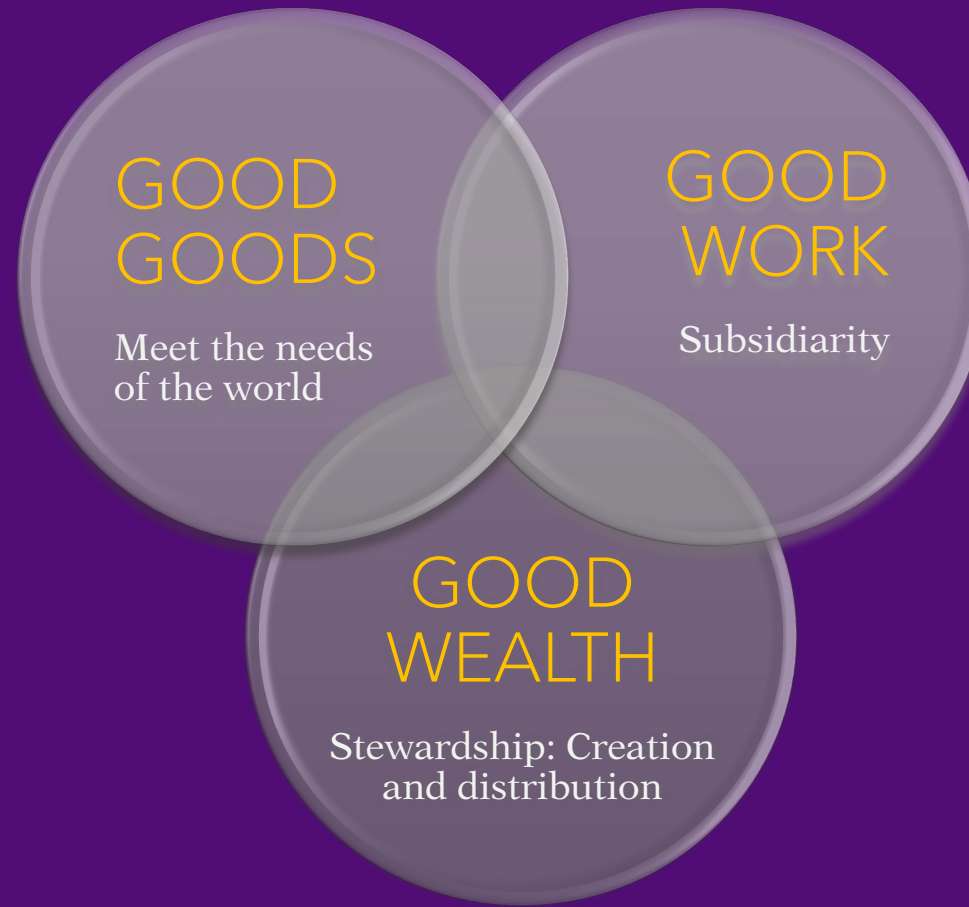
GOOD GOODS

Making goods that are truly good and services that truly serve

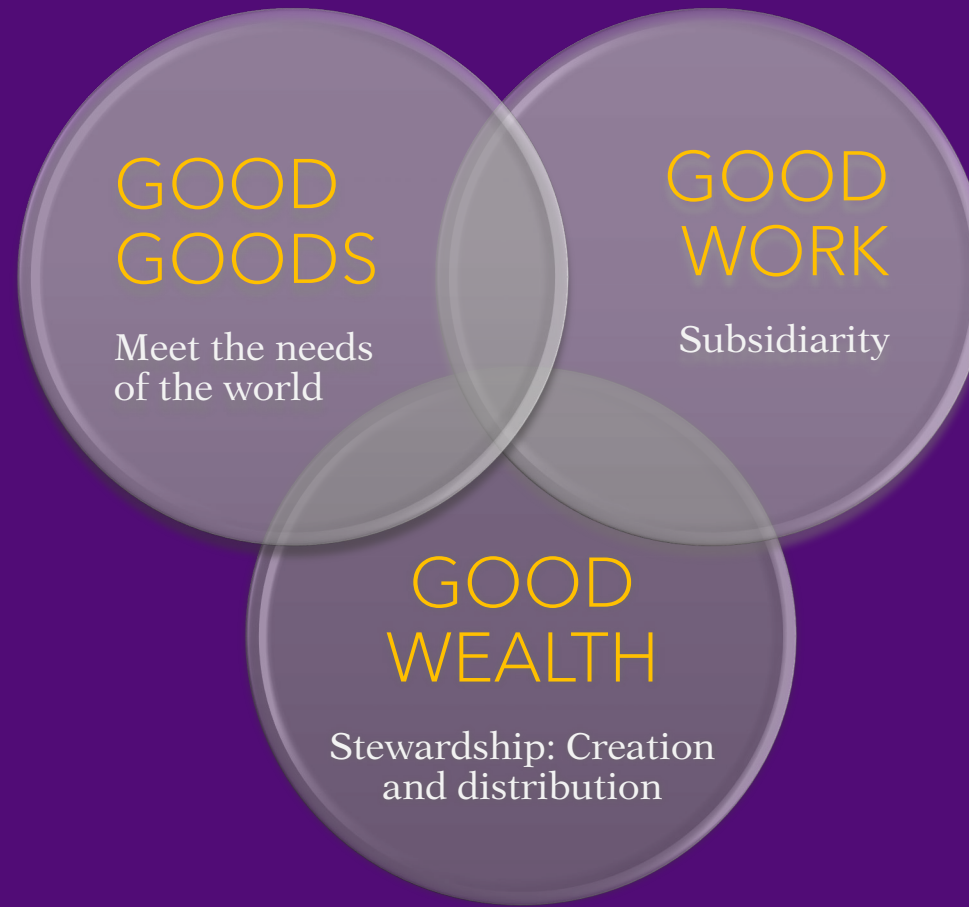
GOOD WEALTH

Creating sustainable wealth and distributing it justly

THREE GOODS OF BUSINESS & THEIR PRINCIPLES



MANAGING THE TENSIONS





GOD, you have created me
to do you some definite service:
You have committed some work to me
which you have not committed to another.
I have my mission -
I may never know it in this life,
but I shall be told in the next.
Somehow I am necessary for your purposes:
as necessary as an Archangel in his.
I have a part in the great work;
I am a link in a chain,
a bond of connection between persons.
You have not created me for nothing.
I shall do good, I shall do your work;
I shall be an angel of peace,
A preacher of truth in my own place.
Deign to fulfill your high purposes in me.
I am here to serve you, to be yours
to be your instrument. AMEN

