

It's a COCOA CRISIS !!

WHAT?! NO MORE CHOCOLATE?

NO – It's a child slavery issue and every purchase matters!

Consume Wisely – buy ethical, fair trade



What can you do?

Next time you shop, use this worksheet and practice “Conscious Consumerism”

Simply look for items displaying the Ethical and Fair Trade logos shown on the reverse side of this worksheet (e.g. coffee, tea, chocolate, dried fruits or nuts, soup mix, etc.).

Shop online or at Trader Joe's, Lucky's, Safeway, Costco, Whole Foods, even Marshall's!

Online shopping: ethicaltrade.crs.org - Catholic Relief Services (CRS)

Every purchase we make has the power to support and protect the dignity of workers

WHAT IS FAIR TRADE?

Fair trade is one model of ethical trade. It embodies a comprehensive set of criteria, including, at minimum, the following commitments:

- Paying a fair wage in the local context
- Offering employees opportunities for advancement
- Providing equal employment opportunities for all people, particularly the most vulnerable or disadvantaged
- Engaging in environmentally sustainable practices
- Being open to public accountability
- Building long-term trade relationships
- Providing healthy and safe working conditions
- Providing financial and technical assistance to producers



These criteria were drawn from the Fair-Trade Federation, a trade association for fair trade businesses in the United States and Canada - visit fairtradefederation.org.

What does ethical purchasing have to do with my faith?

Ethical purchasing is a type of consumer activism where conscientious shoppers purchase products based on the company's fair treatment of workers and suppliers, care for the environment, and community involvement.

From the U.S. Bishop's letter *Economic Justice for All* to Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation *Evangelii Gaudium*, the church continues to highlight matters of the economy. Catholic social teaching is filled with guidance on how people of faith can transform the world through acts of economic justice in their daily decisions as consumers. Every purchase we make has the power to make a difference and restore dignity.

Catholic Network to End Human Trafficking, A Program of
Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County - catholiccharitiesscc.org/cneht
and santateresachurch.com/home/social-action-ministries-sam/trafficking/



DO YOUR PART – LOOK FOR THESE LOGOS ON PRODUCTS YOU BUY

This guide is designed to help you understand the labeling often associated with fair trade products to help consumers make informed decisions and consume wisely.



[The Fair-Trade Federation](#) is the trade association of businesses and organizations in North America fully committed to fair trade. Members are rigorously evaluated for their full commitment to FTF's [Nine Principles](#).



[Fairtrade America](#) is the U.S. arm of Fairtrade International. Fairtrade America licenses the FAIRTRADE Mark. The FAIRTRADE Mark is backed by [global standards](#) developed through consultation with producers and their trade partners and audited by a rigorous certification system. Farmers and workers are represented on Fairtrade International's Board of Directors, General Assembly, and Standards Committee.



[Fair Trade USA](#) is a third-party certifier of fair trade products in the United States. Fair Trade USA [standards](#) enable sustainable development and community empowerment benefiting workers around the world. They audit transactions between U.S. companies offering Fair Trade Certified™ products and their international suppliers, to guarantee that the farmers and farm workers were paid a fair, above-market price.



[Fair for Life](#) is a third-party certification program for social responsibility and fair trade. The Fair for Life program [standards](#) cover many agricultural, manufacturing and trading operations otherwise excluded from fair trade certification. They require ethical working conditions throughout the supply chain.



[Certified B Corporations](#) are for-profit companies certified by the nonprofit B Lab to meet rigorous standards of social and environmental performance, accountability, and transparency.



[Fair Trade Proof](#) was developed by Cooperative Coffees a North American, fair trade coffee roaster cooperative. It is a transparent system for tracing coffee purchases from the farmers to the roasters.



[Small Producers' Symbol](#) was launched to build a local and global market that values the identity and the economic, social, cultural and ecological contributions of products from Small Producers' Organizations.



[The World Fair Trade Organization](#) maintains the [Guarantee System](#). The guarantee system is an assurance mechanism that Fair Trade is implemented in the supply chain and practices of the organization. Members that pass a rigorous 5-step process attain 'Guaranteed Fair Trade Organization' status.



[Rainforest Alliance Certified](#) - Promotes the conservation of native ecosystems and forest protection by assuring compliance with a range of environmental, social and organizational standards. The primary focus of Rainforest Alliance Certification is environmental. It is increasingly popular with companies interested in "sustainability."