



**Catholic Climate Covenant**  
Care for Creation. Care for the Poor.

# Catholic Climate Covenant:

## *The St. Francis Pledge to Care for Creation and the Poor*

### Coalition Members

United States Conference  
of Catholic Bishops:

Department of Justice Peace and  
Human Development

Migration and Refugee Services

The Association of Catholic  
Colleges and Universities

Carmelite NGO

Catholic Charities USA

The Catholic Health Association of  
the United States

Catholic Relief Services

The Conference of Major Superiors  
of Men

The Franciscan Action Network

The Leadership Conference of  
Women Religious

The National Catholic  
Rural Life Conference

The National Council  
of Catholic Women

The **CATHOLIC COALITION ON CLIMATE CHANGE** is a unique and unprecedented initiative that demonstrates a common Catholic commitment to care for God's creation and to stand with the poor and vulnerable people in our nation and around the world facing the impacts of a changing climate.

*"Today the great gift of God's Creation is exposed to serious dangers and lifestyles which can degrade it. Environmental pollution is making particularly unsustainable the lives of the poor of the world ... we must pledge ourselves to take care of creation and to share its resources in solidarity."*

**Pope Benedict XVI**

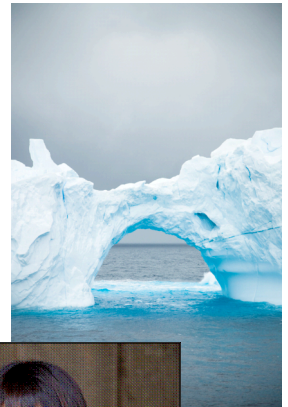
The U.S. Bishops and Pope Benedict XVI, in response to intergovernmental warnings that human activity is resulting in climate change which is seriously impacting those least able to respond, have called us to examine our lifestyle and demonstrate in concrete ways our concern for God's creation and the poor, so that the poor do not unduly suffer.

The **CATHOLIC CLIMATE COVENANT ~ St. Francis Partnership to Care for Creation and the Poor** is a new initiative developed by the Coalition designed to support Catholics in our care and concern by:

**Encouraging and assisting** Catholic institutions, organizations, parishes and individuals to take **The St. Francis Pledge**, thereby acting to protect our planet and those in poverty who are most impacted by climate change.

**Sharing the good news** about ways in which the Catholic community is carrying out the **Catholic Climate Covenant** to honor our obligations toward God's gift of creation. "

[www.catholicclimatecovenant.org](http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org)



## The St. Francis Pledge to Care for Creation and the Poor

The **St. Francis Pledge** is a solemn commitment made by Catholic individuals, groups and institutions to honor God's creation and serve poor people by doing the following:

**PRAY** and reflect on the duty to care for God's creation and protect the poor and vulnerable;

**LEARN** about and educate others on the causes and moral dimensions of climate change;

**ASSESS** how each of us—as individuals or within our families, workplaces or other organizations—is contributing to climate change (i.e. consumption and conservation);

**ACT** to change our choices and behaviors contributing to climate change and;

**ADVOCATE** for Catholic principles and priorities in climate change discussions and decisions, especially as they impact the poor and vulnerable.



---

**Many of you may already be doing some of these activities.  
We offer more ideas, resources, and tools.**

The Covenant [website](#) features the many ways Catholic individuals, families, schools, parishes and other institutions are fulfilling the St. Francis Pledge.

The website offers [news and resources](#) about ways to advocate on behalf of poor people at home and abroad. Download these resources that will help you fulfill the Pledge and go beyond:

- Quotes for bulletin inserts, clipart, direct mailer sent to every parish, in English and Spanish, with poster and print ad
- Curricula for schools and adult religious education programs

You will be directed to information on [Catholic social teaching](#) on being stewards of God's creation.

A [short video](#) can be viewed on the Covenant website as an introduction to and inspiration for, your engagement in the Catholic Climate Covenant.

---

### What can you do?

- Visit [www.catholicclimatecovenant.org](http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org) to take the St. Francis Pledge and to receive updates from the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change about Catholic Climate Covenant activities.
- ~~AND~~ Discuss and promote this initiative with colleagues, friends, and parishioners. Invite others to **Join the Covenant**.



**Catholic Climate Covenant**  
Care for Creation. Care for the Poor.

*We look forward to working with you on this important Catholic initiative.  
The time is right for the Catholic community in the United States to come together  
to demonstrate stewardship, solidarity, and concern for the poor.  
We honor our Creator by caring for Creation.  
Won't you join us?*