



CREATING A CLIMATE FOR SOLIDARITY

FROM
St. Francis
TO
Pope Francis
TO
YOU!

E D U C A T I O N A L I N I T I A T I V E



TAKE THE
ST. FRANCIS
PLEDGE

YOUR FIRST STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION
TO CARE FOR CREATION AND THE POOR



Facilitator's Guide and
Educational Kit

PARISH VERSION

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

Catholic Climate Covenant thanks you

for joining with thousands of others to host an educational session highlighting the distinct Creation care vision of St. Francis and Pope Francis.

WHAT IS THIS EVENT?

You are joining thousands of Catholics and other people of faith who want to learn, grow, and respond to the Church's teaching on climate change and environmental protection.

WHY NOW?

This program is designed around the 2014 Feast of St. Francis (October 4) and highlights St. Francis's concern for Creation and the poor because:

- ✦ This year, 2014, marks the 35th anniversary of St. Francis of Assisi being named the *Patron Saint of those who promote ecology* by St. John Paul II.
- ✦ Pope Francis, so inspired by St. Francis of Assisi that he is the first Roman pontiff to take the saint's name, has already challenged us to make care for Creation and care for the poor a significant part of our Catholic witness: *Let us protect Christ in our lives, so that we can protect others, so that we can protect creation!* - March 19, 2013

This program is the first of three that will explore key themes of St. Francis of Assisi's life and charism: the poor, the planet and peace. The second program of the series will be available in time for Earth Day 2015, and will focus on St. Francis's love of Creation. A year from now (fall of 2015), we will provide a third program in this series that focuses on Creation care and peacemaking.

While the Covenant is producing these materials around particular dates, *you should feel free to offer these educational events at any time.*

OUTCOMES

At the end of this 90-minute program, you and your community will:

1. **Understand** more fully the connection between Creation care and solidarity with the poor and marginalized made by St. Francis of Assisi and expanded on by Pope Francis;
2. **Be inspired** by Catholic teaching about Creation care and solidarity;
3. **Engage** both personally and as a community in concrete ways to better protect Creation and vulnerable people at home and abroad;
4. **Build** leaders and networks for future efforts to practice the Catholic values of environmental stewardship, protection of human dignity, and outreach to the poor.

WHAT DO I NEED?

All the materials you will need for a successful educational event can be found in this Program Kit and on our [2014 Feast of St. Francis Webpage](#).

1. On the Web:

- a) This Education Kit
- b) Multi-media Prezi Presentation: <http://goo.gl/xVSSGc>
- c) [Promotional Resources](#), including a promotional poster, bulletin inserts, and a sample press release.

2. In this Kit:

- a) The [Facilitator's Guide](#) below will help you make your event successful. It includes prayers, processes, and action steps.

This is YOUR program. If you feel that you would like to adapt it to your particular needs, please do so.

- b) [Take Action Sign-Up Sheet](#) that will help your attendees take measurable and concrete actions on Creation care. *Be sure to print several.*
- c) [Catholic Bishops' Letter on Carbon Pollution Standards](#). *Be sure to print enough so that each attendee receives one.*

Continued...

- d) An **Appendix** with links to additional information and resources, advice on handling difficult questions, and suggestions about how to organize a Feast of St. Francis second collection in support of the Covenant.

We highly recommend that you spend some time clicking through and reviewing the links in the appendix. This will enable you to become well versed in the Catholic approach to climate change, and will provide some comfort with potentially difficult questions.

HOW TO PLAN

What follows is a comprehensive plan to help you with a successful event. While it is specifically designed for Catholic audiences, anyone of goodwill can benefit from this program.

HOW MUCH TIME DOES THIS PROGRAM NEED?

- ✦ The entire program, including both the multi-media presentation and discussion, takes about 90 minutes.

WHO SHOULD BE PART OF A “FROM ST. FRANCIS TO POPE FRANCIS TO YOU! CREATING A CLIMATE FOR SOLIDARITY” EVENT?

- ✦ Anyone! But make a special effort to invite your pastor, parish council members, and other parishioners. Be sure also to share the information with your diocesan Social Action Director, diocesan or parish peace & justice committee members, and diocesan or parish pro-life committee members, and welcome them to attend.

WHERE SHOULD THE EVENT BE HELD?

- ✦ Try to first determine the potential turnout for the event, as this will dictate the size of the room or hall you might need. Work with your parish staff or others in the diocese to secure a venue.

HOW DO I GET PEOPLE TO COME?

- ✦ Work through the appropriate channels of communication in your parish and diocese to raise widespread awareness of the event.
- ✦ Remember the power of relationships. The most successful turnout usually happens when you and three or four others work as a team, with each personally inviting twenty people.
- ✦ Advertise in the places people will most notice the free poster and flyers (<http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/creating-a-climate-for-solidarity-kit>) with the location, date, and time of the event.
- ✦ Advertise in the parish bulletin, diocesan newspaper, and on the parish/diocesan web-based calendar.
- ✦ Use social media (Twitter, Facebook, etc.) as well as e-mail systems.
- ✦ Purchase and advertise some light snacks.

On our resources page (<http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/creating-a-climate-for-solidarity-kit>), we have provided several media by which to spread the word in your parish or diocese. Each of these resources can be modified to fit your needs:

- ✦ Bulletin Announcement
- ✦ Bulletin Insert
- ✦ Sample Press Release
- ✦ Promotional Poster/Flyer
- ✦ Editable Promotional Poster/Flyer

A SPECIAL NOTE on the Advocacy Action Step

As you'll see, we have provided a meaningful way for participants to put their Catholic concern for creation into action. Our "Take Action Sign-Up Sheets" will be explained to participants during the multi-media presentation by Dan Misleh, our executive director. It will also be helpful for you to have some background.

By taking action on our sign-up sheets, your participants will help us create a united Catholic voice to support a national standard that drives down carbon pollution. The standard was drafted in a rule from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on June 2, 2014. EPA calls it the Clean Power Plan. The Clean Power Plan's goal is to limit the amount of carbon pollution existing power plants produce over the next 15 years. It also offers states a maximum amount of flexibility in how they reduce their overall carbon pollution within this time period. In the months ahead, Congress will debate whether to allow the EPA to set this national standard for carbon pollution.

In a July 30, 2014 [letter to the EPA](#), Archbishop Wenski and Bishop Pates, the Chairs of the Domestic and International Policy Committees of the U.S. Catholic bishops, respectively, voiced support for a national standard on carbon pollution from power plants. The bishops urged national leaders to act on climate change, especially because climate change disproportionately harms the poor. They closed their letter by saying, "We welcome the EPA's proposal of a national standard to reduce significantly carbon pollution and call upon our leaders in government and industry to act responsibly, justly and rapidly to implement such a standard."

On the [Take Action Sign-Up sheets](#), participants have the opportunity to take action in a meaningful way by adding their voices to the bishops'. We encourage you to communicate the power of taking action in faith.

This is a significant opportunity for participants to bring the value of Creation care to life. The letter will read:

"I join with leading Catholic bishops and with Catholics across the country in supporting a national limit on carbon pollution from power plants as proposed by the EPA."

We will send this letter by email to elected officials on behalf of all those who signed up.

Because we can send the letter only for the names we receive, it is very important that you collect and send us the action sheets. At the end of the program, please scan and e-mail (or snail mail) all your sheets to the Covenant.

FACILITATOR'S GUIDE

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- ✦ A video screen
- ✦ A laptop computer
- ✦ An Internet connection
- ✦ A projector
- ✦ Speakers
- ✦ Copies of Catholic Bishops' Letter on Carbon Pollution Standards (enough for all attendees)
- ✦ Clipboards for Take Action Sign-Up Sheets (or several of the sheets on the tables or chairs)
- ✦ Take Action Sign-Up Sheets (print several)

PLEASE NOTE: Anyone who is interested in joining the Covenant or taking the St. Francis Pledge may sign up on our website, but our Take-Action Sign-Up sheets will help you capture the excitement of the event. *Please scan all the sign-up sheets and email them to info@catholicclimatecovenant.org within 24 hours of your event.* If you are uncomfortable with this technology, the completed Take Action Sign-Up Sheets can be mailed to:

Catholic Climate Covenant
McCormick Pavilion at Theological College
415 Michigan Avenue, N.E.
2nd Floor – Suite 260
Washington, DC 20017

**Sending us your completed Take Action Sign-Up Sheets is necessary.
Please support the growth of Catholic voices united in caring for Creation.**

- ✦ Recommended: drinks and light snacks

BEFORE ATTENDEES ARRIVE:

- ✦ Print the Catholic Bishops' Letter on Carbon Pollution Standards (enough for all attendees).
- ✦ Print several Take Action Sign-Up Sheets and bring some pens or pencils.
- ✦ Load the multi-media presentation by going to <http://goo.gl/xVSSGc>.
- ✦ Test to make sure that video, audio (you will need external speakers), and projection are working.
- ✦ Set up refreshments and a table for any information you wish to display.
- ✦ Decide whether you will facilitate discussion among one large group (recommended for groups of up to 10 people) or smaller groups.

THE SCRIPT

What follows is a set of directions and a suggested script designed to keep you on track.

Directions are in **[bold]**, suggested text to narrate is in *italics*.

INTRODUCTION AND OPENING PRAYER (5 MINUTES)

[Have Slide #1 on the screen as people gather to begin]

Tonight we are going through a process that will help us all understand Catholic teachings on Creation care and solidarity as expressed by St. Francis of Assisi and reinforced for our situation today by Pope Francis. We hope that this will begin a serious conversation about the links between care for all Creation and care for all persons, especially the poor and vulnerable. Throughout the evening, we will encourage your thoughts and ideas about what we can do to make a difference — both individually and as a group (name your group).

But before we begin, let us read together the Prayer of St. Francis.

[Advance to Slide #2]

AFTER THE PRAYER

Tonight we will view an interactive slide presentation that will include expert reflections and discussion questions to help us better understand the connection between Creation care and solidarity. Let us begin.

[Play the Multi-media Presentation Slides #3-19]

PLEASE NOTE: You will need to designate someone to advance the slides during the presentation. A chime indicates when to move to the next slide. To advance each slide, click the right arrow in the gray bar below the slide. DO NOT click the play button in the left corner of the gray bar, as this will send the presentation into auto-play and disrupt the sequence later in the program.

The first 18 slides are introductory, outlining the purpose of the program and a bit on Catholic teaching. Covenant executive director Dan Misleh narrates these. He will also introduce the other segments in the program.

Continued...

VIDEO SESSION 1: ST. FRANCIS (15 MINUTES)

Discussion about the first set of videos: To stay on track, you will need to keep the group moving. Time each question and discussion—whether you are encouraging small groups or one large group—for five minutes.

In light of Sr. Nothwehr's reflections, we invite you to consider several questions. After I read each question, take a minute to reflect on your answer. Then, take another minute to share your answer with your neighbor. Then, I will ask one or two people to share their thoughts with the larger group for another 3 minutes.

[Advance to Slide #20 to display the first question]

Sr. Dawn Nothwehr speaks about how St. Francis lived "in fraternitas" and understood solidarity within a familial relationship that included the poor and all Creation.

How does this resonate with your understanding of your relationship to God's world?

Or is this a new understanding for you?

[Advance to Slide #21 to display the second question]

Sr. Nothwehr speaks about the environmental impacts upon those who are most marginalized.

What difference does it make if we say, "our sisters and brothers" instead of "the poor" when we speak of vulnerable people?

[Advance to Slide #22 to display the third question]

How is climate change and our current maltreatment of Creation a sin, as Sr. Nothwehr suggests?

Consider some ways we can "repent" or become better "guardians of Creation."

VIDEO SESSION 2: POPE FRANCIS (15 MINUTES)

We now turn to Msgr. Kevin Irwin of the Catholic University of America and Professor Meghan Clark of St. John's University in Queens, New York for their reflections on Pope Francis.

[Play the Multi-media Presentation Slides #23-27]

Discussion about the second set of videos:

In light of the reflections offered by Msgr. Irwin and Dr. Clark, we again invite you to consider several questions. As before, please take a minute to reflect after I ask the question. Then, take another minute to share your answer with your neighbor. I will ask one or two people to share their thoughts with the larger group for another 3 minutes.

Continued...

[Advance to Slide #28 to display the first question]

Msgr. Irwin describes how Pope Francis's direct experiences of human and ecological exploitation in South America inform his belief that consumerism and poverty are connected.

How do you see consumerism and poverty as connected?

[Advance to Slide #29 to display the second question]

Pope Francis uses a "wide-angle lens on the world" and called us to see that solidarity includes both our human neighbor as well as the whole of Creation.

What does Pope Francis's "wide-angle" view of solidarity mean to you?

[Advance to Slide #30 to display the third question]

Dr. Clark says that Pope Francis moves seamlessly between protecting Creation, protecting those living in poverty, and promoting peace, and that "this is the heart of Catholic social teaching" and of St. Francis.

How do you see these three themes connected? Can you do one of these without attention to the others?

VIDEO SESSION 3: YOU! (15 MINUTES)

We now turn to Mr. Rob Gorman, director of Catholic Charities for the Diocese of Houma-Thibodaux in Louisiana and Ms. Marilyn Evans, president of Communities United for Action, which is based in Cincinnati. They will share their thoughts on how environment, poverty, and justice are interrelated in the work they do.

[Play the Multi-media Presentation Slides #31-34]

Discussion about the third set of videos: (15 Minutes)

In light of the reflections offered by Mr. Gorman and Ms. Evans, we again invite you to consider several questions. As before, please take a minute to reflect after I ask the question. Then take another minute to share your answer with your neighbor. After that, I will ask one or two people to share their thoughts with the larger group for another 3 minutes.

[Advance to Slide #35 to display the first question]

Mr. Gorman talks about the intimate connections between the land and the people in southern Louisiana.

What are those intimate connections where you live?

How has the physical environment where you live shaped your community?

Continued...

[Advance to Slide #36 to display the second question]

Ms. Evans describes her neighborhood as a hole in a donut where environmental harms of all types encircle her community.

Can you point to an area where you live in which there is clear environmental harm on local communities?

What is the economic and social makeup of those communities?

[Advance to Slide #37 to display the third question]

Given how environmental harm disproportionately impacts the poor and vulnerable, what are two concrete steps that you can take to better care for Creation in solidarity with all persons?

ACTION STEPS (8 MINUTES)

Pass out Catholic Bishops' Letter on Carbon Pollution Standards and note that there are Take Action Sign-Up Sheets around the room.

Now that we have considered the Catholic vocation to care for God's Creation in solidarity with all persons, the Catholic Climate Covenant invites us to take two important steps. We again turn to Dan Misleh, who will outline the importance of our advocacy and what resources and action steps the Covenant would like us to consider.

[Play the Multi-media Presentation Slides #38-46]

I encourage you to provide the requested information on the Take Action Sign-Up Sheet. If you have already taken the St. Francis Pledge and are receiving the Covenant's bi-weekly e-mail newsletters, you can check as indicated.

We will send this information to the staff of the Covenant who will act on our behalf. Depending on what you select, they will register your Pledge commitment and/or send a letter to your elected officials in your name.

Continued...

CONCLUSION (5 MINUTES)

**Conclude the session with a group recitation of the Canticle of the Creatures.
[Advance to Slide #47] Observe a moment of silence, and then begin the prayer.**

After the prayer, thank everyone again for coming. Collect all completed Take Action Sign-Up Sheets, scan them, and email them to info@catholicclimatecovenant.org right away. Please remember to keep a copy for yourself so you can stay in touch with the participants for your own creation care efforts. If you prefer, you can mail the completed Take Action Sign-Up Sheets to:

Catholic Climate Covenant
McCormick Pavilion at Theological College
415 Michigan Avenue, N.E.
2nd Floor – Suite 260
Washington, DC 20017



First Name	Last Name	Address (include ZIP Code)	Email	I will take the St. Francis Pledge	I have already taken the St. Francis Pledge	I agree with leading US Bishops: We need to set limits on carbon pollution. Send a letter to my elected officials on my behalf.

HANDOUT 2 Catholic Bishops' Letter on Carbon Pollution Standards



Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development Committee on International Justice and Peace

3211 FOURTH STREET NE • WASHINGTON DC 20017-1194 • 202-541-3160
WEBSITE: WWW.USCCB.ORG/JPHD • FAX 202-541-3339

July 30, 2014

Gina McCarthy
Administrator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC 20460

Subj: Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OAR-2013-0602

Dear Administrator McCarthy:

We write as Chairmen of the Domestic and International Committees of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) to welcome the setting of standards to reduce carbon pollution from existing power plants and thereby mitigate climate change. We support a national standard to reduce carbon pollution and recognize the important flexibility given to states in determining how best to meet these goals. These standards should protect the health and welfare of all people, especially children, the elderly, as well as poor and vulnerable communities, from harmful pollution emitted from power plants and from the impacts of climate change.

As bishops and people of faith, we do not speak as experts on carbon pollution or on the technical remedies to address climate change. We are pastors in a faith tradition that teaches, as Pope Francis recently stated, “Creation is a gift, it is a wonderful gift that God has given us, so that we care for it and we use it for the benefit of all, always with great respect and gratitude.”

The best evidence indicates that power plants are the largest stationary source of carbon emissions in the United States, and a major contributor to climate change. Power plants have often been located near low-income neighborhoods and communities of color. Air pollution from these plants contributes to health problems, especially in the young and the elderly. These problems include: increased risk of premature death and heart attacks; increased incidence and severity of asthma; and other health effects. These standards would significantly reduce carbon pollution from power plants; they would also reduce particle pollution, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxides, which have been linked to important human and environmental health problems.¹

Efforts to address climate change must take into account creation and its relationship to “the least of these” (Matthew 25). Too frequently we observe the damaging impacts from climate-related events in the United States and across the globe, particularly on poor and vulnerable communities. We know that the communities served by Catholic Relief Services (CRS) are already experiencing the tragic consequences of climate change. Increasingly limited access to water, reduced crop yields, more widespread disease, more frequent and intense droughts and storms, as well as conflict over declining resources – are all making the lives of the world’s poorest people even more precarious.

¹ Driscoll, C.T, Buonocore, J., Reid, S., Fakhraei, H, and Lambert, K.F. 2014. Co-benefits of Carbon Standards Part 1: Air Pollution Changes under Different 111d Options for Existing Power Plants. Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY and Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. A report of the Science Policy Exchange. 34 pp. See <http://eng-cs.syr.edu/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/Carbon-cobenefits-study-6-13-14.pdf>.

HANDOUT 2 Catholic Bishops' Letter on Carbon Pollution Standards

Letter to Gina McCarthy

July 30, 2014

Page 2

As the U.S. bishops wrote in our statement, *Global Climate Change: A Plea for Dialogue, Prudence and the Common Good*: “Action to mitigate global climate change must be built upon a foundation of social and economic justice.”

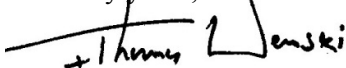
These standards demonstrate the commitment of the United States to address climate change and create an opportunity for the United States to exercise the critical leadership necessary for achieving a globally negotiated climate change agreement.

As the EPA takes future steps to reduce carbon pollution and address climate change and as states develop plans to meet these goals, we urge all to be guided by the following principles taken from our climate change statement and the teaching of Pope Francis:

- **Respect for Human Life and Dignity.** The regulations and all efforts to reduce the impact of climate change should respect human life and dignity, especially that of the poorest and most vulnerable, from children in the womb to the elderly. In particular, these measures must protect poor and vulnerable communities and persons from the health impacts of climate change, including exposure to climate-sensitive diseases, heat waves and diminished air quality.
- **Prudence on Behalf of the Common Good.** We believe that wise action to address climate change is required *now* to protect the common good for present and future generations.
- **Priority for the Poor and Vulnerable.** The consequences of climate change will be borne by the world's most vulnerable people; inaction will worsen their suffering.
- **Social and Economic Justice.** Workers should be protected from negative effects on the workforce resulting from the new standards and should receive assistance to mitigate impacts on their livelihoods and families. Any additional costs that such standards may generate must be distributed fairly, without undue burden on the poor.
- **Care for creation.** We are called to be responsible stewards of the earth and to use the gifts we have been given to protect human life and dignity, now and in the future.
- **Participation.** Local communities should have a voice in shaping these standards based on their local impact, especially low-income communities whose voice is often not heard. It is in accord with their dignity that they participate in this process.

We appreciate your commitment to address this urgent global challenge confronting the human family. We welcome the EPA's proposal of a national standard to reduce significantly carbon pollution and call upon our leaders in government and industry to act responsibly, justly and rapidly to implement such a standard.

Sincerely yours,



Most Reverend Thomas G. Wenski
Archbishop of Miami
Chairman, Committee on Domestic Justice
and Human Development



Most Reverend Richard E. Pates
Bishop of Des Moines
Chairman, Committee on International
Justice and Peace

APPENDIX

About the Covenant:

The Catholic Climate Covenant was founded in 2006 with the support of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB). The Covenant complements the USCCB's Environmental Justice Program and is guided by sixteen national Steering Committee members:

- ✦ From the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:
 - Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development
 - Migration and Refugee Services
- ✦ Catholic Charities USA
- ✦ Catholic Relief Services
- ✦ Catholic Health Association of the United States
- ✦ Conference of Major Superiors of Men
- ✦ Columbian Center for Advocacy and Outreach
- ✦ National Catholic Rural Life Conference
- ✦ Franciscan Action Network
- ✦ National Council of Catholic Women
- ✦ Leadership Conference of Women Religious
- ✦ Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities
- ✦ Carmelite NGO
- ✦ National Catholic Education Association
- ✦ National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry
- ✦ Sisters of Mercy of the Americas

Learn more at: <http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/about-us/>

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- ✦ CATHOLIC TEACHING ON CLIMATE CHANGE
<http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/catholic-teachings/>
- ✦ FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS
<http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/about-us/frequently-asked-questions/>
- ✦ CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVES ON CLIMATE CHANGE AND POPULATION
<http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/catholic-teachings/climate-change-population/>
- ✦ MATERIALS TO ENGAGE AND PROMOTE THE ST. FRANCIS PLEDGE
<http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/resources/>
- ✦ SUSTAINABILITY AND CATHOLIC HIGHER EDUCATION: A TOOLKIT FOR MISSION INTEGRATION
<http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Sustainability-and-Catholic-Higher-Education-A-Toolkit-for-Mission-Integration.pdf>
- ✦ PLANNING GUIDE FOR PARISHES AND SCHOOLS TO TAKE THE ST. FRANCIS PLEDGE
<http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Parish-Planning-Guide-FINAL.pdf>
- ✦ FRIENDING PLANET EARTH: HELPING YOUTH UNDERSTAND SOLIDARITY AND SUSTAINABILITY IN LIGHT OF CLIMATE CHANGE
<http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/08/Friending-Planet-Earth.-Catholic-Youth-Climate-Change-Program.pdf>

HANDLING DIFFICULT QUESTIONS

As a facilitator, you are encouraged to not allow a person who opposes climate science or Catholic teaching on Creation care to dominate the discussion time. Remind her/him that this program is about understanding how the Catholic Church is responding to the issue in the spirit of St. Francis and as articulated by recent popes and other Church leaders, including the U.S. Catholic bishops. Say to that person that you will be happy to try to address her/his concerns at the conclusion of the program

ORGANIZING A SECOND COLLECTION FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE CATHOLIC CLIMATE COVENANT

As you organize your *From St. Francis to Pope Francis to You!* program, we encourage your parish to consider organizing a special second collection to support the Catholic Climate Covenant. These funds will enable the Covenant to continue its work, and we ask you to prayerfully consider taking the following steps:

1. Contact your parish priest well before your *From St. Francis to Pope Francis to You!* program and obtain permission to organize a second collection to benefit the Covenant.
2. Contact your parish bulletin manager and have the following published (in print or through social media and e-mail) one week prior to the Sunday at which the collections will be taken up:

“As our community raises awareness about the links between climate change and poverty, on (insert date) we will hold a second collection taken up at each Mass next Sunday to benefit Catholic Climate Covenant. The Covenant works with and supports the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ teaching on climate change and environmental justice. Information about its ministry can be found at CatholicClimateCovenant.org. Checks can be made payable to Catholic Climate Covenant. Please come prepared to be as generous as you are able!”

3. Contact your parish liturgical coordinator and have the following read after the Prayers of Petition at each second collection Mass:

“As our community strives to understand Catholic teaching on the environment and climate change, and the impacts of climate change on the poor and vulnerable, we will take up a second collection today to benefit Catholic Climate Covenant. The Covenant works with and supports the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ teaching on climate change and environmental justice. Checks can be made payable to Catholic Climate Covenant. We thank you in advance for your faith-filled generosity.”

4. We recommend that you download and print the Covenant prayer card for distribution in the pews before mass begins. Front and back PDFs of this card can be found here: http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/04/Final_prayer-card-Side-1.pdf and http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/09/Final_prayer-card-Side-2.pdf

5. Mail all collected donations to:

Catholic Climate Covenant
McCormick Pavilion at Theological College
415 Michigan Avenue, N.E.
2nd Floor – Suite 260
Washington, DC 20017