

For Immediate Release – (DATE)

 In partnership with Catholic Climate Covenant, parish (name of parish) hosted a “Feast of St. Francis” program directed at involving the Catholic community with the issue of climate change. Drawing inspiration both from the life of St. Francis of Assisi and the current pope, this year’s theme was “Dial Down the Heat: Cultivate the Common Good for our Common Home.” The program was designed to promote civil and constructive dialogue on climate change.

 Catholic Climate Covenant has been working to promote ecological awareness in the Church community since 2006, and has been running the Feast of St. Francis program for five years. Engaging U.S Catholics to promote the Church’s social teaching on care for creation and care for the poor, Catholic Climate Covenant has helped convey the urgency of Pope Francis’ call to protect the Earth. The organization is committed to advocacy, civil dialogue, and education; all central messages of the Feast of St. Francis.

 Held on (date), (name of parish) assembled (number of FOSF attendees) parishioners to discuss the impact of climate change and engage with the community to find sustainable solutions. The event featured a video highlighting the Pope’s encyclical *Laudato Si’* and stories from climate change impacted communities. Through discussion and activities like (calculating one’s carbon footprint, setting up meetings with local legislators, and going on a ‘scavenger hunt’ to find ways to make facilities more sustainable), participants discovered first-hand Pope Francis’ message of care for our common home. Parish (name of parish) has been hosting the Feast of St. Francis for (number of years) years now.

 (Personal anecdote from facilitator or participant).

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