

Catholic Coalition on Climate Change

Helping Catholics become faithful stewards of God's earth

November Update '08

Good News!

The Catholic Climate Covenant and the St. Francis Pledge to Protect the Earth and the Poor

The Catholic Coalition on Climate Change will be launching a unique and unprecedented initiative, *The Catholic Climate Covenant and the St. Francis Pledge to Protect the Earth and the Poor*. This ambitious project will demonstrate 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.

See Catholic News Service [Blog](#) for coverage.

This effort will be *launched during the Easter season in 2009*.

At the center of the **Covenant** will be **The St. Francis Pledge** calling Catholic individuals, groups and institutions to make a serious commitment to all of 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 moral dimensions of climate change;

ASSESS our participation-as individuals and organizations-in contributing to climate change (i.e. consumption and conservation);

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

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

In preparation for this significant project we need your input. We need stories from YOU at the local level that illustrate activities -- *any of the five areas listed above* --where you are already addressing climate change.

For example:

- What prayer resources might you recommend that are helpful in fulfilling

the first part of the pledge?

OR

- What actions to reduce your carbon footprint have you, your diocese, your parish, your school taken that others might find easy to replicate in their own settings?

Etc.

Please send to: info@catholicsandclimatechange.org

We'll continue to keep you posted as events emerge on the Catholic Climate Covenant!

Other News and Resources:

You may find these two recent articles helpful in articulating the Catholic approach to climate change. From Coalition executive director, Dan Misleh:

- The National Association of Catholic Family Life Ministers devoted their entire [Fall 2008 Family Perspectives Journal](#) to environmental concerns.

The Jesuit Volunteer Corps, Northwest, posted an article on climate change and the JVC values of community, simplicity, spirituality, and poverty. You can see the article [here](#).

Please share this information with your friends and colleagues. Go to our [tell-a-friend](#) page and send them an invitation to sign up too!

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