

ACTION ALERT

Office of Peace, Justice and Ecological Integrity
Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth

May 9, 2018

ISSUE: Catholic Climate Declaration

The Catholic Climate Covenant is promoting Catholics Are Still In: The US Catholic Climate Declaration This declaration expresses the U.S. Catholic community's call to climate action, arising from our theological foundation, proclaimed to all within our one human family. From this call we envision, pray for, and act towards a thriving future, with our family and the gift of God's creation.

Not surprisingly, most of the signatories so far have been Congregations of women religious, including the Office of Peace, Justice, and Ecological Integrity of the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth. The Catholic Climate Covenant is hoping to attract signatories from other Catholic leaders. Could you please encourage your diocese, parish and sponsored schools and other ministries to also sign on?

The Covenant is hoping for at least 500 sign-on's by June 11th, to show a big Catholic commitment to care for creation at an announcement planned for June 18th, the third anniversary of the public release of Laudato Si.

ACTION: Encourage a diverse group of Catholic leaders to sign the Catholic Climate Declaration. Information about signing can be found at this link <http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org/catholic-climate-declaration>

PRAYER: Prayerfully reflect on the Sisters of Charity Public Stand on Climate Change/Global Warming

We, the Sisters of Charity of Saint Elizabeth, recognizing the reality of global climate change and its negative impact on the entire community of Life, commit ourselves

- to a deeper contemplation of the presence of God in the wonderful diversity of creation which compels us to a life of reverence for the sacredness of Earth;
- to education about the reality of global warming in all our ministries;
- to a special focus on the effects of global warming on those made poor, especially women and children;
- to continual and sustained effort to reduce our carbon footprint in our local communities, sponsored and other ministries;

-to join with other people of good will in advocating for policy changes that will reduce carbon emissions and promote the use of sustainable forms of energy.

We make this public stand as a Congregation inspired by our patrons and founders:

Saint Vincent de Paul and Saint Louise de Marillac who challenged social and economic structures from the perspective of those made poor; Saint Elizabeth Seton who took contemplative delight in God's presence in creation; Mother Xavier, who met the needs of her age with energy and zeal.