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2024 ANNUAL REPORT

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LETTER from Our Episcopal Moderator

Dear Friends in Christ,

In the 2024 declaration *Dilexit Nos*, Pope Francis reminds us that by contemplating Jesus' Sacred Heart, the faithful can be filled with the "living water that can heal the hurt we have caused, strengthen our ability to love and serve others, and inspire us to journey together toward a just, solidary and fraternal world" (DN 220). This is especially true in the face of the climate crisis that disproportionately affects the most vulnerable. As I reflect on these words, I am reminded of the roots that anchor us as people of faith — roots grounded deeply in our shared responsibility to care for God's creation, nourished by healing, living water.

As the Episcopal Moderator for Catholic Climate Covenant, I have witnessed firsthand the transformative work that has unfolded over the past year. Rooted in our faith, we have not only continued to spread our efforts but have also planted seeds of change that promise to bear fruit for generations to come. Together, we have increased the scope and impact of our programs, expanded our reach into new communities, and deepened our commitment to responding to the urgent needs of our climate and our neighbors.

The work we do together, supported by the guidance of the Church and the outpouring of your commitment, is a testament to the boundless love that Christ has for all creation. We are united in this work, and as we move forward, we do so with courage and hope, knowing that our efforts will bear lasting fruit for generations to come.

I thank each of you for your dedication, your prayers, and your active participation in this vital mission. Your work, alongside the tireless efforts of our staff and partners, brings to life the call of Pope Francis to care for our common home. Through our shared faith and collective action, we continue to embody God's infinite love for the world and for all people.

With gratitude and blessings,

Most Reverend Joseph J. Tyson, Bishop of Yakima Episcopal Moderator for Catholic Climate Covenant



...We should make a great effort to learn the following lesson, also taught by Christ: 'Learn from me, for I am gentle and humble of heart.' We should remember that he himself said that by gentleness, we inherit the earth. ..." (DN, #191)

- Pope Francis, Dilexit Nos, Oct. 24, 2024



LETTER from our Board (hair



Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we continue to witness the growing impacts of climate change, we are reminded of the urgent need for action. From intensifying wildfires to devastating floods and droughts, the evidence of our collective neglect of God's creation is undeniable. These challenges are not abstract — they are deeply felt by the most vulnerable among us, whose lives are increasingly shaped by the effects of a changing climate.

Yet, despite these daunting realities, I find myself filled with hope. Rooted in faith, Catholic Climate Covenant has responded to this crisis with courage and commitment. This past year, we have not only deepened our efforts to serve those most impacted by climate change, but we have also expanded our reach, building new partnerships, growing resources, and creating lasting change in communities across the country.

Our faith calls us to protect the dignity of every person, especially those most vulnerable, and to care for God's creation with the reverence and stewardship it deserves. As our theme for this annual report, "Rooted in Faith, Growing in Action," reminds us, we are grounded in the love of God, and from this foundation, we are expanding our work to address the climate crisis in more meaningful ways. Together with our partners, we have made strides in advocating for policies that protect the environment, educating communities about creation care practices, and offering the tools needed to respond to the challenges of climate change.

I am proud to present the 2024 Annual Report, which highlights these efforts and the powerful impact of our collective action. But we know that the journey is far from over. There is still much to be done, and with your continued support, we can grow even further, making a lasting difference in the lives of those who need it most.

As we look to the future, we remain committed to Pope Francis' call to care for our common home. Together, we are taking action, planting seeds of change that will bear fruit for generations to come.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to Catholic Climate Covenant's mission. With your partnership, we are rooted in faith and growing in action — creating a better, more sustainable world for all of God's creation.

With gratitude and blessings,

Scott Hurd Chair of the Board for Catholic Climate Covenant

LETTER from Our Founder & Executive Director

Dear Friends of Creation,

It is with great joy that I share with you the incredible progress Catholic Climate Covenant has made in 2024. Our theme this year, "Rooted in Faith, Growing in Action," reflects the strength of our mission to care for creation, serve the most vulnerable, and respond to climate change with renewed urgency and hope. The work we have done together this year has been a testament to the faith that grounds us and the action that propels us forward.

One of the most inspiring developments in 2024 has been the expansion of our youth and young adult programs. Guided by the leadership of Kayla Jacobs, our Youth Mobilization Coordinator, and Diana Marin, our Young Adult Mobilization Coordinator, we've seen a remarkable increase in the number of young people engaged in climate advocacy and creation care. Across dioceses, young people are taking leadership in organizing, advocating, and making their voices heard.

We are collaborating more than ever before with Catholic partners to do together what our organizations can't do alone. This collaboration led to the Pilgrimages of Hope for Creation that is being rolled out in 2025.

Our Catholic Energies program continues to flourish, with dozens of projects across the country that are either completed or in development. This initiative is more than just about clean energy; it's about showing local communities, especially young people, that the Catholic Church is committed to a sustainable and just future. The positive impact of these projects goes far beyond energy savings — they are visible signs that we, as a faith community, care deeply about the preservation of creation for future generations.

In addition, our advocacy campaign, Encounter for Our Common Home has encouraged Catholics across the country to engage with their lawmakers, push for climate action, and remind Catholic voters of the stakes leading up to the 2024 general election. These grassroots efforts demonstrate that each voice — no matter how small — plays an important role in shaping the future of our common home.

These efforts, and many others highlighted in this report, show that when we are rooted in faith, our actions can grow to meet the challenges of our time. But none of this would be possible without your unwavering support. Whether through your prayers, your advocacy, or your generous donations, you are a vital part of the work we are doing. You help us plant seeds of change that will bear fruit for generations to come.

Thank you for being a part of this important journey. With your continued support, we will carry the message of *Laudato Si*' forward and ensure that the future of our common home is one filled with hope, justice, and sustainability.

Dan Middh

Dan Misleh Founder and Executive Director



Catholic Climate Covenant envisions a world in which all humanity shares in both the responsibility and joy of our common home and all creation thrives with wholeness, abundant life, dignity, and justice.

our Mission

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The mission of Catholic Climate Covenant is to inspire and mobilize the U.S. Catholic community to care for creation and achieve climate justice through the lens of integral ecology.

ABOUT US

Catholic Climate Covenant was formed in 2006 to address growing ecological awareness and help implement Catholic social teaching on ecology within the U.S. Church. With 20 national partners, CCC inspires and mobilizes the U.S. Catholic community to care for creation and achieve climate justice through the lens of integral ecology.

Education and Programs

Core to Catholic Climate Covenant's ministry is educating the Catholic community about the climate crisis, Church teaching on the environment, and the ways Catholics can be better caretakers of God's creation. In the U.S., CCC is a trusted resource for authentic Catholic teaching and programs on creation care.

Our annual interactive Earth Day and Feast of St. Francis programs as well as our webinars, homily helps, bulletin inserts, monthly newsletters, and national conferences, inform, inspire, and empower thousands of Catholics to advance creation care, climate action and environmental justice in the parishes, religious orders, dioceses, and other communities.

Our Catholic Energies Program helps Catholic facility owners develop solar projects that: reduce carbon emissions, lower utility costs (creating savings that can be used to fund core mission activities), and educate their constituents on Church teachings about creation care. With The Covenant's guidance, nearly 30 Catholic facility owners have been beneficiaries of solar and energy efficiency projects. Additionally, these facilities have become a witness to the wider community, demonstrating that their faith community cares about their future. The program has been expanding to advise Catholic institutions to establish net zero emission pathways over several years.

organizing

The Covenant leads the efforts in the United States to implement the Vatican's Laudato Si' Action Platform — a seven-year journey to put the aspirations of an integral ecology into action — through the initiative God's Planet.

We regularly convene leaders who advance creation care in dioceses and parishes. This includes convening and facilitating the work of the Interdiocesan Creation Care Network (38 dioceses and growing) and creation care teams in parishes and other institutions (approximately 400 and growing).

We created Godsplanet.us as the U.S. Catholic hub of the Laudato Si' Action Platform to inform, educate, and celebrate the inspiring efforts by schools, religious orders, parishes, dioceses, and others in the care of our common home.

Catholic Climate Covenant mobilizes U.S.-based young adults ages 18-39 from across the Catholic Church around care of creation. From webinars and weekend retreats to curriculum for college and parish settings and year-long leadership formation programs, the Covenant's Young Adult Mobilization program offers young adults and those who work with young adults resources to organize for climate action through a faithbased, Catholic perspective.

In 2024, our Youth Mobilization program expanded our leadership training program by creating regional teams of high school students. The students met throughout the school year and were empowered to be faithinspired climate leaders in their schools, parishes, and communities. The student leaders create a space for high school students to utilize their leadership skills, build community, and take climate action.

Advocacy

We encourage all Catholics to advocate both within their own faith communities and to their political leaders, urging their support for policies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and advance the needs of vulnerable populations whose voices are not often heard.

Our collaborative "Encounter for Our Common Home" campaign brings together Catholics to engage with their legislators from the lens of their faith.

Our new young adult "Common Home Corps" offers engaged young Catholics the discernment and skills to dialogue with Catholic leaders and laity on creation care and implementation in ways consistent with our faith.

Learn more and join our mailing list for free resources catholicclimatecovenant.org.

2024 KEY HIGHLIGHTS

January

We hosted our first Catholic Youth Climate Summit in Boston. The summit was organized by our Boston youth mobilization team of 11 high school students. 47 students and faculty spent the day together to learn, create action plans, and build community.

19 students and faculty from our Boston youth mobilization program participated in the Massachusetts Youth Climate Coalition's Climate Lobby Day at the Massachusetts State House. The students led legislative visits with their elected officials.

The Covenant unveiled our annual Lenten resources.

March

Students from the Chicago team organized a virtual lobby day with elected officials in Illinois.

We attended and brought two young adult leaders to the Leadership Roundtable's Catholic Partnership Summit on Young Adults in the Church.

We created a **Women's History Month blog series** to honor all of the lay, religious, and saintly women who have played a pivotal part in creation care.

The Covenant unveiled its annual Earth Day program. This year's theme was "Healing Our Throwaway Culture: Focus on Plastics." The program received 2,107 downloads, and the accompanying video earned 12,995 views!

May

The Covenant **announced the recipients** of the Victory Noll Sisters small grants program.

We unveiled our annual prayer resources for Laudato Si' Week.

The Covenant worked alongside our partner, Ignatian Solidarity Network, to release the Laudato Si' High School Resource Guide.

We raised over \$75,000 in our annual spring appeal. Thank you to all who donated!

February

Kayla Jacobs, the Covenant's Program Manager of Youth Mobilization and Policy Advisor, spoke at the Religious Education Congress in Los Angeles. We co-hosted an exhibit table with the California Creation Care Committee.

We hosted our third annual Catholic Youth Climate Summit in Chicago. The summit was organized by our Chicago youth mobilization team of 16 high school students. This year, Cardinal Cupich celebrated Mass and met with the students for a panel discussion. Here is an article about Cardinal Cupich and the summit.

Young Adult Mobilization showcased the Wholemakers curriculum at FADICA's Education Symposium.

Catholic youth mobilization stole the show at our February webinar as well!

April

The Covenant's Founder, Dan Misleh, assumed the role of interim Executive Director (and was asked to become full-time director by the board in June)

Young Adult Mobilization launched the Covenant's first Young Adult Advisory Board.

June

The Covenant won a 1st place Catholic Media Association Award for our video series "God's Creation Needs You,"

We hosted our 2nd annual Climate Action After High School online gathering for recent graduates.

We finalized and submitted to the Vatican's Dicastery for the Promotion of Integral Human Development for a Vulnerable Young People on the Move report that reflected a synodal listening process involving recent migrants and young adults around climate migration.

Young Adult Mobilization was exhibited at the Catholic Campus Ministry Association's Annual Summit

Year Round

Additional work and projects started or continued throughout the year include monthly Homily Helps, bi-monthly CCT emails with resources and information, monthly CCT online conversations, convening and facilitating conversations within the Interdiocesan Creation Care Network, maintaining and updating resources for GodsPlanet, and monthly Encounter gatherings.

July

The Covenant hosted our July webinar for **Plastic Free July**, giving Catholics practical tips on removing and minimizing plastic waste in their homes and in their communities.

September

We launched our 2024-2025 youth mobilization program. This school year, we have three teams of students from 7 regions. There are 48 student leaders.

We hosted a First Time Voter Community Conversation for young adults and recently naturalized citizens.

November

Executive Director Dan Misleh shared a powerful post-election reflection about our work and the years ahead.

August

We unveiled our annual Feast of St. Francis program to be celebrated during the Season of Creation. This year's theme was "Let Us Sow Hope."

Sr. Kathleen Duffy, SSJ, joined us for our August webinar to explore the life and theological and scientific contributions of Teilhard de Chardin, an influential French Jesuit priest, mystic, and scientist.

october

Five of our high school student leaders in Milwaukee hosted a voter registration drive.

We co-sponsored an interfaith prayer vigil at the State Department ahead of the Conference of Parties 29.

We exhibited and led panels at the Ignatian Family Teach-in for Justice conference in Washington, DC. Kayla led legislative briefings for first-time advocates and led a breakout session on youth mobilization with two student leaders. One of our young adult leaders was selected to speak at the large-scale ecology panel entitled: "Living During A Climate Crisis: What Actions Matter Most?"

Young Adult Mobilization was invited to speak at NETWORK's Nuns on the Bus closing rally in San Francisco.

Catholic youth creation care leaders were **featured on an episode** of Catholic TV's *This is the Day.*

December

The Covenant announced the recipients of a new \$20,000 net-zero Victory Noll Sisters grant.

We raised over \$60,000 during our end-of-the-year annual fundraiser. Thank you to everyone who participated.

We unveiled our annual Advent resources.

Our December webinar was a lively book talk cohosted with our partners Laudato Si' Movement-North America and Ignatian Solidarity Network featuring the editor and three chapter authors of "Green Saints for a Green Generation", a book written by young Catholic women (scientists, sisters, theologians) on "saints" — canonized and not — who connect their faith to concern for our common home. The Church teaches that the earth and the heavens were created for the benefit of all humanity. All the natural world is a sign of God's creative power and love."

- The Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 337

GIVING IS BELIEVING

Your generosity makes our work possible. Whether through annual giving, volunteer efforts, or prayers, your support sustains Catholic Climate Covenant's mission. We are deeply grateful for the individuals, congregations, and foundations who contribute to our efforts to care for our common home. This report recognizes the donors who made a gift in 2024. Your belief in our mission strengthens our foundation and empowers us to continue this vital work. Thank you for your support!

Mariann McCorkle Director of Development

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DONOR SPOTLIGHT Phil Sakimoto



In his 2023 Papal Exhortation *Laudate Deum*, Pope Francis notes that although eight years have passed since he published his landmark Encyclical *Laudato Si': On Care for our Common Home*, "our responses have not been adequate, while the world in which we live is collapsing and may be nearing the breaking point." (LD §2)

My name is Phil Sakimoto. As an astrophysicist and the Director of the Minor in Sustainability at the University of Notre Dame, I am acutely aware of just how close we are to that breaking point. But it's not too late to fix it. We have the knowledge and technologies needed to halt climate change, but we do not have the societal support needed to deploy these tools.

That's where Catholic Climate Covenant comes in. I have the privilege of working as a volunteer with the Covenant to support their programs. I also have the privilege of being a sustaining donor to the Covenant, because I know that providing guaranteed monthly contributions is what allows the Covenant to plan and act on behalf of all of us.

The Covenant plays a major role in gathering and focusing societal support, acting as the U.S. representative for the Vatican's global Laudato Si' Action Platform. The Covenant creates and supports Creation Care Teams in parishes across America, provides the Catholic Energies program to assist Catholic organizations in de-carbonizing their facilities, and much, much more.

Supporting the Covenant is indeed a privilege. Committing to recurring monthly donations is a simple and effective way to join the fight against climate change — which is needed now more than ever. Becoming involved in the Covenant's programs is even better. If you haven't done so already, please join in.

Yours sincerely,

Phil Sakimoto

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I am acutely aware of just how close we are to that breaking point. But it's not too late to fix it. We have the knowledge and technologies needed to halt climate change, but we do not have the societal support needed to deploy these tools. That's where Catholic Climate Covenant comes in." Mr. Andrew Drance Dr. Vie Thorgren Walter Kowalski Barbara Cane Christine Nevin Anthony Buch John Frambes Debbie Siebers Thomas Tweed Patty & Joe Dipre Mary Rehmann Susan Lester Ellen Pairo Ms. Delide M Huie Rosaline Tanishita Carole Patridge Mr. Glenn Willard Tom Hemm CPPS Dr. Robert Donovan Mrs. Jane Pellegrino Mary Mattingly Sissy McEntee Mary McManus Christopher Kerr Barbara Fleischer Lauren Schauf Kathy Wilmering Steven Lee Dominican Sisters Annchester House of **Grand Rapids** Mr. John Wozniak Mr. John Gooch John Cinciarelli Philip McManus/Betsy Fairbanks Mrs. Carol Bayens Ms. Barbara Linton Lourdes Babauta Dr. Mark Debe Michael Agliardo Maureen Garvey Scott Wilbur Ms. Cheryl Brink Jeanne Fec Mr. Roger Ingersoll Sr. Beth McCormick O.P. Fr. Emmet Farrell **Christopher Jones** Elizabeth Zolper Susan Anderson Elizabeth Schepers Kathleen Yadriick MaryElizabeth Kenel Patty McGrath Judith Hubert Fr. Frain Karen Duane The Ancilla Domini Sisters Mr. William Forster Carolyn Droszcz John Wilson Mr. Henry Glynn David Coleman

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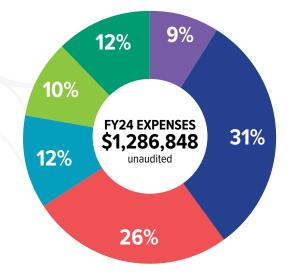
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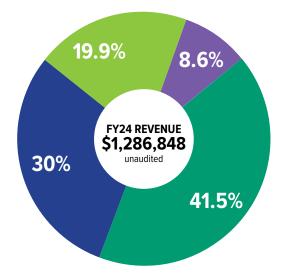
2024 FINANCIALS

| | TOTAL EXPENSES | \$1,286,848 |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------|
| | Advocacy | \$115,816 |
| | Fundraising | \$128,685 |
| | Education | \$398,922 |
| | Catholic Energies | \$154,422 |
| | Administrative | \$154,422 |
| | Organizing | \$334,581 |
| FY24 EXPENSES UNAUDITED | | |



FY24 REVENUE UNAUDITED

| TOTAL REVENUE | \$1,286,848 |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Other | \$110,064 |
| Direct Contributions | \$256,655 |
| Grants | \$386,000 |
| Catholic Energies | \$534,129 |



CATHOLIC CLIMATE COVENANT

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Partners

Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities

Association of United States Catholic Priests

Carmelite NGO

Catholic Association of Diocesan Ecumenical and Interreligious Officers

Catholic Charities USA

Catholic Relief Services

Catholic Rural Life

Catholic Health Association of the United States

Caritas North America

Franciscan Action Network

Holy Name Province, OFM

Ignatian Solidarity Network

Leadership Conference of Women Religious

Laudato Si' Movement

Maryknoll OGC

National Catholic Education Association

National Council of Catholic Women

Sisters of Mercy of the Americas

Society of the Sacred Heart United States – Canada Province

St. Columban Mission for Justice, Peace and Ecology



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