

# Catholic Climate Covenant at Annunciation Parish



**Church Teaching &  
Practical Tips for Saving Our Environment**

# Catholic Climate Covenant



- A Annunciation's
- G **Green**
- A Awareness (for)
- P Protecting (our)
- E Environment



**Catholic Climate Covenant**™

Care for Creation. Care for the Poor.

## **What is the Catholic Climate Covenant?**

**A Catholic Climate Covenant and the St. Francis Pledge to Care for Creation and the Poor, is a unique and unprecedented initiative in response to a growing desire by the Catholic community to respond, in faith, to climate change. It will also be a demonstration of 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 who face the impacts of a changing climate.**



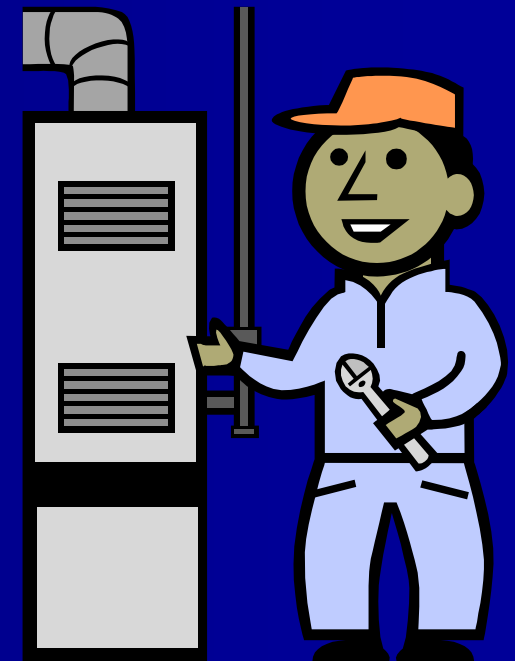
YOUR FIRST STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION  
**TAKE THE ST. FRANCIS PLEDGE**  
TO CARE FOR CREATION AND THE POOR

At the center of the Covenant is 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 for 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.

**“At its core, global climate change is not about economic theory or political platforms, nor about partisan advantage or interest group pressures. It is about the future of God’s creation and the one human family.” - *US Catholic Bishops, Global Climate Change: A Plea for Dialogue, Prudence and the Common Good, 2001***

***What you can do*** – Schedule a furnace tune-up. An inefficient heater can waste 30-50% of the energy it uses. Clean or change furnace filters monthly.



*"My dear friends, God's creation is one and it is good. The concerns for non-violence, sustainable development, justice and peace, and care for our environment are of vital importance for humanity."* Pope Benedict XVI at World Youth Day, June 2008

***What you can do*** – Eat less meat. Make one day a week completely meatless; only eat meat for one meal a day; limit the amount of meat on your plate and fill up on more vegetables and grains.



"As individuals, as institutions, as a people we need a change of heart to preserve and protect the planet for our children and for generations yet unborn". - *Renewing the Earth, U. S. Catholic Bishops, 1991*

***What you can do*** – Recycle your old prescription bottles. The containers should be emptied, washed and cleaned. Labels should be removed.



"Created things belong not to the few, but to the entire human family." *U.S. Catholic Bishops, Renewing the Earth, 1991, p.8*

***What you can do*** – Begin paying bills online. Paying bills online reduces the use of paper and saves money on gas and postage.



*"Obedience to the voice of the earth is more important for our future happiness than the voices of the moment, the desires of the moment... Existence itself, our earth, speaks to us, and we have to learn to listen."*

- Pope Benedict XVI, July, 2007

***What you can do*** – Don't just sit there! If you drive, avoid idle time. Turn off your car whenever possible. Any more than 10 seconds of idling uses more fuel than is required to restart the engine. Idling your car 10 minutes every day can produce over a quarter ton of CO<sub>2</sub> every year.



"Man's dominion over inanimate and other living beings granted by the Creator is not absolute; it is limited by concern for the quality of life of his neighbor, including generations to come; it requires a religious respect for the integrity of creation."

*Catechism of the Catholic Church, no.2415*

***What you can do*** – Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth or shaving. You will save 4 gallons of water a minute. Run dishwashers and clothes washers only for full loads.

