



## The Catholic Coalition on Climate Change

P.O. Box 60205  
Washington, DC 20039  
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[www.catholicsandclimatechange.org](http://www.catholicsandclimatechange.org)  
[info@catholicsandclimatechange.org](mailto:info@catholicsandclimatechange.org)



*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**

### Speaker Bureau Training Program

#### OVERVIEW

The Catholic Coalition on Climate Change is training leaders to become well-versed in a Catholic approach to climate change in an effort to better meet the demand by parishes, dioceses, schools and other organizations for presentations, workshops and trainings, and to begin to expand the reach of Coalition throughout the United States. You are invited to apply to be one of these leaders and a member of the Coalition's Speakers Bureau.

Since 2006, the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change has played a pivotal role in the U.S. Catholic response to the enormous challenge of climate change. The Coalition has taken on the responsibility to develop a strategy for spiritual formation and education of the faithful, create resources, programs and projects that engage youth, families and parishioners, and spur action that leads to public policy change at local, national and international levels.

The Coalition includes eleven national Catholic organizations as members of this unprecedented partnership. Together they have established relationships and connections with thousands of the Catholic faithful throughout the United States. It is with and through these organizations that the Church is organizing its efforts.

With the endorsement and full support of our honorary chairman, Bishop William Skylstad of Spokane, the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development at the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, our other national Catholic partners and collaborators, the Coalition launched on April 21, 2009 a groundbreaking initiative designed to engage Catholic individuals, families, parishes, schools, organizations and others in the issue of climate change from a distinct and authentically Catholic perspective. The *Catholic Climate Covenant: The St. Francis Pledge to Care for Creation and the Poor* continues to be the primary organizing tool and has been adopted by national Catholic partners and dioceses throughout the country; versions of it are found overseas as well. (To learn more about the Coalition and the Covenant, visit: [www.catholicclimatecovenant.org](http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org).)

To ensure that the highest caliber of Catholic leaders are available to meet the increasing demand for knowledgeable speakers on this topic, the Coalition will evaluate and select 15 to 25 individuals representing the geographical diversity of the country. Candidates will be evaluated on:

- Public speaking experience
- Written communication skills
- Availability to commit to at least 5 presentations each year to various Catholic groups
- Willingness to reach out to Catholic audiences to ensure that this goal is met
- Stature within the Catholic community (locally, regionally, or nationally)

If you believe you qualify for this training and would like to be considered, please continue by completing the application (below) and returning it to: [danmisleh@catholicsandclimatechange.org](mailto:danmisleh@catholicsandclimatechange.org).



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### **SPEAKERS BUREAU APPLICATION**

On behalf of the honorary Chairman of the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change, Bishop William Skylstad of Spokane, thank you for your interest and application to be a member of a selected group of Catholic leaders trained to give presentations and workshops on a Catholic approach to climate change on behalf of the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change.

The goal of this training will be to fully prepare Catholic leaders to offer expert workshops and presentations and to help promote the work of the Coalition, especially its signature initiative, the *Catholic Climate Covenant: The St. Francis Pledge to Care for Creation and the Poor*.

This training will provide selected applicants the tools and techniques necessary to inspire audiences and encourage greater involvement in the climate change issue from the perspective of the Catholic Church. The Coalition will be continuously available to share the latest ideas, resources and tools to help you succeed.

Should you be chosen to be part of this new and prestigious leadership team, the Coalition will pay for your travel, room and board to attend the training, and offer a modest one-time stipend for your time and commitment.

Upon acceptance into the training program, you agree to:

- attend one of two weekend-long training events (December 4-6, 2010 in the Washington DC area or March 3-5 in the San Jose, CA area). The Catholic Coalition on Climate Change will cover all expenses;
- prepare a standard presentation (PowerPoint and text) on a Catholic approach to climate change based on what you have learned and submit it for review by the Executive Director of the Coalition;
- commit to five presentations on a Catholic approach to climate change each year;
- seek opportunities to fulfill this commitment;
- seek additional opportunities to write articles and op-eds for diocesan or secular media;
- include personal and professional references as well as the name and phone number of your parish priest, bishop or religious superior.



Catholic Coalition on Climate Change  
Speakers Bureau Application

*Please complete all of the information required in this Microsoft Word document (be as thorough as possible. If the answers add another page or two, that is fine). Perform a "Save As" and label it with your last name. Attach the saved document to an E-mail and send it to: [danmisleh@catholicsandclimatechange.org](mailto:danmisleh@catholicsandclimatechange.org).*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: Day: \_\_\_\_\_; Evening: \_\_\_\_\_; Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Current or most recent work experience:*

*In 300 words or less, please outline why you are interested in being a part of the Coalition's Speakers Bureau?*

*List and describe your three most recent presentations. Include the topic, venue, number of attendees and date.*

*What do you think are the key characteristics of a good speaker?*

*Because the topic of climate change still generates controversy and strong emotions by some, the Coalition wants to know how you work under pressure:*

- *Please describe a situation where you felt personally attacked for your beliefs or ideas? How did you respond? What did you learn? In hindsight, would you have done anything differently? If so, describe.*

*References: please provide the name and phone number of three references: 1) a work or professional reference; 2) a personal reference; 3) your pastor, bishop or religious superior.*

If accepted, I would be able to attend the following training event (indicate one or both):

\_\_\_ December 4-6, 2010 in Washington, DC

\_\_\_ March 3-5, 2011 in San Jose, CA

Please save this document with a unique name, attach it to an e-mail and send to:

[danmisleh@catholicsandclimatechange.org](mailto:danmisleh@catholicsandclimatechange.org)

