



**A Catholic Consultation on  
Environmental Justice and Climate Change:  
Assessing Pope Benedict XVI's Ecological Vision for the  
Catholic Church in the United States**

**November 8-10, 2012  
The Catholic University of America, 620 Michigan Ave. NE  
Washington, DC 20064**

Co-sponsored by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops,  
The Catholic University of America, the Institute for Policy Research and Catholic Studies (CUA),  
and the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change



***A Catholic Consultation on Environmental Justice and Climate Change:  
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The Catholic University of America      Washington, DC      November 8-10, 2012

**Schedule**

\*Keynote address on November 8 will be at Hannan Hall. All other events (except for Mass) will be held at Edward J. Pryzbyla University Center, Great Room C. Please refer to the CUA map in this program.

**Thursday, November 8**

7:30 pm    **Keynote Address**      Hannan Hall

Welcome, **Dr. Stephen F. Schneck**  
*Director, Institute for Policy Research & Catholic Studies,  
The Catholic University of America*

Opening Prayer and Introduction, **Most Rev. Frank J. Dewane**  
*Bishop of Venice  
Committee on International Justice and Peace,  
U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops*

Keynote Address, **Most Rev. Bernard Unabali**  
*Bishop of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea*

**Friday, November 9**

8:00 am    Arrival/Continental Breakfast      Pryzbyla Center  
Great Room C

**8:45 am    Session 1 - Human and Natural Ecology/Human Life and Dignity**

Moderator: **William D. Dinges, Ph.D.**, Ordinary Professor of Religious Studies,  
School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of  
America

Presenters:

- **Br. Keith Douglas Warner, OFM, Ph.D.**, Associate Adjunct Lecturer, Santa Clara University
  - *Bonaventure in Benedict: Franciscan Fingerprints on "Human Ecology" in Papal Teaching*
- **Mary A. Ashley, Ph.D.** Candidate, Graduate Theological Union
  - *If You Want Responsibility, Build Relationship: A Personalist Approach to Benedict XVI's Environmental Vision*
- **Michael Baur, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Adjunct Professor of Law, and Director of the Natural Law Colloquium, Fordham University
  - *Natural Law and the Natural Environment: Pope Benedict XVI's Vision Beyond Utilitarianism and Deontology*

10:45 am    Break

**11:00 am Session 2 - Solidarity, Justice, Poverty and the Common Good**

Moderator: **Tobias Winright, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Theological Ethics,  
St. Louis University

Presenters:

- **Scott Hefelfinger, Ph.D.** Candidate, University of Notre Dame
  - *Human, Social, and Natural Ecology: Three Ecologies, One Cosmology, and the Common Good*
- **Christiana Z. Peppard, Ph.D.**, Assistant Professor of Theology & Science, Fordham University
  - *Commodifying Creation? Benedict XVI's Vision of the Goods of Creation Intended for All*
- **Matthew P. Whelan, Ph.D.** Candidate, Duke University
  - *The Grammar of Creation: Agriculture in the Thought of Pope Benedict XVI*

1:00 pm Lunch

**2:00 pm Session 3 - Sacramentality of Creation**

Moderator: **Jame Schaefer, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Theology,  
Marquette University

Presenters:

- **Elizabeth Groppe, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Theology, Xavier University
  - *The Way of Wisdom*
- **Rev. Msgr. Kevin W. Irwin, M.Div., S.T.D.**, Ordinary Professor of Liturgical Studies and Sacramental Theology, The Catholic University of America
  - *The World as God's Icon: Creation, Sacramentality, Liturgy*
- **Jeremiah Vallery, Ph.D.** Candidate, Duquesne University
  - *Cosmic Liturgy: Assessing Pope Benedict XVI's Ecological Vision for the Catholic Church in the United States*

4:00 pm Break

4:15 pm Mass

Caldwell Chapel

Celebrant: **Most Rev. William S. Skylstad**

*Bishop Emeritus of Spokane  
Honorary Chairman, Catholic Coalition on Climate Change  
Past President, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops*

Homilist: **Most Rev. Donald J. Kettler**

*Bishop of Fairbanks*

5:15 pm: Adjourn/Dinner on your own

Saturday, November 10

8:00 am Arrival/Continental Breakfast

Pryzbyla Center  
Great Room C

**8:45 am Session 4 - Our Catholic Faith in Action**

Moderator: **Fr. John Haughey, S.J., Ph.D.**, Fellow, Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University

Presenters:

- **Fr. John T. Brinkman, M.M., Ph.D.**, Historian of Religions
  - *Discernment of the Church and the Dynamics of the Climate Change Conferences*
- **David Cloutier, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Theology, Mount St. Mary's University
  - *American Lifestyles and Structures of Sin: The Practical Implications of Pope Benedict XVI's Ecological Vision for the American Church*
- **Anselma T. Dolcich-Ashley, Ph.D.**, Post-Doctoral Teaching Fellow, University of Notre Dame
  - *American Nature Writing As a Critically-Appropriated Resource for Catholic Ecological Ethics*

10:45 am Break

11:00 am Wrap-Up Session

Moderator: **Br. Keith Douglas Warner, OFM, Ph.D.**, Associate Adjunct Lecturer, Santa Clara University

Presenters:

- **Jame Schaefer, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Theology, Marquette University
- **Tobias Winright, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Theological Ethics, St. Louis University

12:00 pm Closing Prayer/Luncheon

1:00 pm Adjourn

### **Presenter Biographies**

**Mary A. Ashley, Ph.D.** Candidate, Graduate Theological Union

Mary Ashley holds master's degrees in Social Welfare (UCLA) and Theology (Jesuit School of Theology), and is currently a doctoral student in Ethics and Social Theory at Berkeley, CA's Graduate Theological Union. Her research centers on a Catholic and personalist response to large-scale environmental degradation, including global climate change. Ms. Ashley has presented to the Pacific Coast Theological Society and American Academy of Religion on this topic, and has received a Newhall Fellowship to teach an introductory Christian ethics course that takes the human-animal relation as its focus.

**Michael Baur, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Adjunct Professor of Law, and Director of the Natural Law Colloquium, Fordham University

Michael Baur holds a B.A. from Loyola Marymount University, a Ph.D. from the University of Toronto, and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. From 1997 to 2006, he served as national secretary of the American Catholic Philosophical Association, and since 1994 he has been serving as national secretary of the Hegel Society of America. His scholarly work focuses on issues in the philosophy of law (especially natural law), the philosophy of German Idealism, and the philosophy of popular culture.

Three recent, representative publications of his include: "Aquinas on Law and Natural Law" in the Oxford Handbook of Aquinas (Oxford, 2012); "From Kant's Highest Good to Hegel's Absolute Knowing" in the Blackwell Companion to Hegel (Blackwell, 2011); and "The Language of Rights: Towards an Aristotelian-Thomistic Analysis" in the Proceedings of the American Catholic Philosophical Association (2011). He is also the translator of Johann Gottlieb Fichte's Foundations of Natural Right (Cambridge, 2000), and co-editor of The Beatles and Philosophy (Open Court, 2006).

**Fr. John T. Brinkman, M.M., Ph.D.**, Historian of Religions

John T. Brinkman, M.M., Ph.D. is a historian of religions whose work has particular reference to the history of thought in East and Southeast Asia. His three foci of engagement are: the inter-religious environmental dialogue, the engagement of the Church with matters environmental and the analysis and interpretation of ecological discourse with particular reference to the Convention on Climate Change. He has participated in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) from the 1997 COP 3 Kyoto, Japan conference to the 2011 COP 17 Durban, South Africa conference. He has most recently participated in the Bangkok inter-session preparatory to the 26 November-December 7, 2012 COP 18 Doha, Qatar. His UNFCCC articles are published in their first instance by the Oriens Institute, Tokyo and by The Office of Global Concerns, Washington, DC. He was on the USCCB advisory committee for the climate change document: "A Plea for Dialogue, Prudence, and the Common Good." He is co-editor of the UNEP volume: Earth and Faith.

Among his recent presentations coincident with the focus of this 8-10 November scholars' conference is "Climate Change, an Ethical Challenge for the Church" at the 19-21 October 2011 Misereor/Federation of Asian Bishops' Conferences (FABC) Seminar on Climate Change in Bangkok. This seminar produced the Asian Bishops declaration: "Church Response to the Challenge of Climate Change in Asia; Toward a New Creation." He serves on the FABC Climate Desk. His current work centers on the Commission on Ecology and Religion. He is situated in Tokyo, Japan.

**David Cloutier, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Theology, Mount St. Mary's University

David Cloutier is associate professor of theology at Mount St. Mary's University in Emmitsburg, MD, where he teaches courses in moral theology, Catholic social ethics, and marriage and sexual ethics, as well as directing a year-long seminar for tenure-track faculty across the university on the Catholic Intellectual Tradition. He received his B.A. from Carleton College and his Ph.D. from Duke University, writing a dissertation on the place of renunciation in an ethic of happiness. He is the author of *Love, Reason, and God's Story: An Introduction to Catholic Sexual Ethics* (2008), and editor of the collection *Leaving and Coming Home: New Wineskins for Catholic Sexual Ethics* (2010). Recent articles include "Working with the Grammar of Creation: Benedict XVI, Wendell Berry, and the Unity of the Catholic Moral Vision" (in *Communio*), "The Problem of Luxury in the Christian Life" (in *Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics*), and (with John Schwenkler) "An Economy of Care: It Starts with Food" (in *Commonweal*). He serves on the editorial board of *Journal of Moral Theology*, having (with William Mattison) edited its first volume on method and a forthcoming volume on virtue. He is currently working on a book on the moral problem of luxury, and also serves as a director at the Common Market, the consumer food cooperative of Frederick, MD.

**Anselma T. Dolcich-Ashley, Ph.D.**, Post-Doctoral Teaching Fellow, University of Notre Dame

A native of Washington, DC, Anselma Dolcich-Ashley received her B.S. and M.S. in biology from Georgetown University and her M.Div. from Weston Jesuit School of Theology. She recently completed her Ph.D. in Moral Theology at the University of Notre Dame with a dissertation, directed by Prof. Jean Porter, analyzing the Catholic sexual abuse crisis in the US. A former campus minister with the Archdiocese of Chicago and Saint Mary's College, she now holds a position as a post-doctoral teaching fellow in the Department of Theology at Notre Dame. An outdoor nature-lover, she lives in a semi-rural neighborhood outside South Bend, Indiana, with her husband and three young-adult children.

**Elizabeth Groppe, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Theology, Xavier University

Elizabeth Groppe completed her doctorate at the University of Notre Dame. Her publications include the books *Yves Congar's Theology of the Holy Spirit* and *Eating and Drinking*, a volume for the Fortress Compass Series on Christianity and the Practices of Everyday life. In March 2012, Dr. Groppe wrote "A Climate For Change: What the church can do about global warming" in *America* magazine, an article which built on her November 2011 article in *America* online, "Climate Change: A Life Issue." Dr. Groppe is a regular contributor to "In All Things," the group blog of *America*.

**Scott Hefelfinger, Ph.D.** Candidate, University of Notre Dame

Scott Hefelfinger was born and raised in southern California, the second of four children. In his early childhood, he was introduced to music and the piano, playing and performing in numerous recitals and competitions throughout the state. After attending UC Berkeley and majoring in music, a crisis of faith provoked him to dabble in philosophy and theology. Dabbling quickly escalated into formal study as Scott headed out to Europe for an eight-year stint of graduate studies and teaching at the International Theological Institute in Austria. He received both a Master's and Licentiate in Sacred Theology, at the same time meeting his Austrian wife, getting married, and welcoming their first child into the world. Scott has recently returned to the States with his family and is currently working on a PhD in Moral Theology at the University of Notre Dame. Scott has been invited to give papers both nationally and internationally, and his recent published work can be found in *Logos: A Journal of Catholic Thought and Culture*, *Letter & Spirit*, as well as other journals. Scott enjoys writing music, performing, gardening, cooking, woodworking, and above all spending time with his family.

**Rev. Msgr. Kevin W. Irwin, M.Div., S.T.D.**

Monsignor Kevin Irwin is a priest of the Archdiocese of New York and has served on the faculty of the School of Theology and Religious Studies at The Catholic University of America since 1986. He holds the Walter J. Schmitz Chair of Liturgical Studies and served as Dean of the School from 2005 until 2011. His S.T.D. was awarded *summa cum laude* from Sant'Anselmo (Rome).

Msgr. Irwin is the author fourteen books on liturgy and sacraments including *Liturgy, Prayer and Spirituality* (Paulist, 1984), *Liturgical Theology: A Primer* (Liturgical Press, 1990), *Context and Text. Method in Liturgical Theology* (Liturgical Press, 1994), the three volume commentary on the liturgical seasons entitled *Advent-Christmas, Lent and Easter: A Guide to Eucharist and Hours* (Pueblo/Liturgical Press, 1985-91) and *Responses to 101 Questions on the Mass* (Paulist, 1999, revised edition to be published 2012). His most recent book *Models of the Eucharist* was published in July, 2005 by Paulist Press. In addition, the Georgetown University Press has published *Preserving the Creation: Environmental Theology and Ethics* which Msgr. Irwin has co-edited with Dr. Edmund Pellegrino containing an essay by Msgr. Irwin on the sacramentality of creation and the role of creation in liturgy and sacraments.

He is the author of the major article on "Sacramental Theology" for the revised edition of the *New Catholic Encyclopedia*, on "Sacrament" for the *New Dictionary of Theology*, on "Liturgical Theology" for the *New Dictionary of Sacramental Worship* and on "Liturgy" for the *New Dictionary of Catholic Spirituality*. His contributions to the *New Catholic Encyclopedia, Supplement, Vol. 18* include the articles on "Sacramental Theology" and "Eucharistic Theology." He is the author of over fifty articles and sixty reviews, and in November 2004 was named an advisor to the United States Bishops' Committee on the Liturgy, a role which he also held in the 1990's and in which capacity he still serves. He also served for a decade as an advisor to the Bishops' Committee on the Permanent Diaconate.

**Christiana Z. Peppard, Ph.D.,** Assistant Professor of Theology & Science, Fordham University

Christiana Z. Peppard is Assistant Professor of Theology & Science and Ethics in the Department of Theology at Fordham University, where she is a faculty affiliate with the Environmental Policy Program. Dr. Peppard's current scholarly research and book projects focus on (1) valuing fresh water in an era of economic globalization; (2) the value of water and the Catholic imagination; and (3) points of divergence and convergence in the concept of nature through scientific, theological, environmental, and ethical lenses. Her most recent publications include "Fresh Water and Catholic Social Teaching—A Vital Nexus," published in June 2012 in the *Journal of Catholic Social Thought*; and her book manuscript, "Waters for Life," will be published in the coming year with Orbis Books. With Andrea Vicini, S.J., she is co-editor of a volume in preparation, entitled "Just Sustainability: Technology, Ecology, and Resource Extraction" (also under contract with Orbis Books). She has lectured on fresh water, ethics, and theology.

From 2009-2012, Dr. Peppard served as an executive member of the Board of Directors of *America* magazine, the weekly publication and media ministry of the Jesuit Conference of the United States. Prior to joining the faculty at Fordham, she was Cathedral Scholar in Residence at St. John the Divine in New York City and Visiting Scholar at the Center for Ethics Education at Fordham. With the late Arthur Galston, she co-edited *Expanding Horizons in Bioethics* (Springer, 2005), which argued for an expansion of bioethical discourse towards the horizon of the relationship between science and society. She has trained as a hospital chaplain and participated in a National Endowment for the Humanities summer seminar on Ethics at the End of Life (2003). Dr. Peppard received her Ph.D. from Yale University (2011, with distinction), a M.A.R. in Ethics from Yale Divinity School (2005), and a B.A. in Human Biology from Stanford University (2001). She loves poetry, intellectual biographies, and mornings, and she lives with her spouse and their exuberant daughter in New York City.



**Jeremiah Vallery, Ph.D. Candidate, Duquesne University**

Jeremiah Vallery is a teaching assistant and Ph.D. student in Systematic Theology at Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. As an undergraduate at Ave Maria University, he double-majored in theology and philosophy, and minored in literature. His senior thesis was entitled, “Cosmic Bath and Transfiguration: Are the Sacraments Necessary for the Perfection of the Cosmos?” for which he received the Aquinas Undergraduate Thesis Award from the Aquinas Center for Theological Renewal. Mr. Vallery also received his M.A. in Theology from Ave Maria University. His Master’s thesis was an investigation into the ecclesiology of St. Ignatius of Antioch. Currently, his research interests include the theology of Pope Benedict XVI, especially his biblical hermeneutics, cosmic soteriology, and engagement with and appropriation of postmodern thinkers. Recently, he presented a paper at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota entitled, “Benedict XVI’s Reception of Dei Verbum: A Gadamerian Transcendence.” For his dissertation, Mr. Vallery is planning on writing about the hermeneutical foundations, sources, characteristics, and practical applications of Benedict’s cosmic soteriology.

**Br. Keith Douglas Warner, OFM, Ph.D., Associate Adjunct Lecturer, Santa Clara University**

Keith Douglass Warner OFM is a Franciscan Friar in the St. Barbara Province and a practical social ethicist in the Franciscan tradition. He has an M.A. in Spirituality from FST/GTU and a Ph.D. in Environmental Studies from UC-Santa Cruz. He began teaching at Santa Clara University in 2003. He is the Director of Education at the Center for Science, Technology, & Society, where he directs a fellowship that places undergraduates with social entrepreneurs using frugal technologies in the developing world. He also teaches religious environmental ethics, and Franciscan spirituality. He researches the emergence of environmental ethics within scientific and religious institutions, and how this fosters a more just and sustainable society. He is an active participant in the retrieval of the Franciscan intellectual tradition, especially the sciences and social ethics. His webpage: [www.scu.edu/kwarner](http://www.scu.edu/kwarner)

**Matthew P. Whelan, Ph.D. Candidate, Duke University**

Matthew Philipp Whelan is currently a doctoral candidate in the Graduate Program in Religious Studies at Duke University. He is working to finish the translation of a manuscript entitled *Entre el Icono y el Ídolo* (*Between the Icon and the Idol*), a book on the intellectual and political history of the Russian Idea and its intersection with the thought of Peter Chaadayev, Vladimir Soloviev, and Vasily Grossman, for Cascade Press. He is also beginning to work on his dissertation, which will focus upon Catholic teaching on land and agriculture, particularly the repeated call for land reform in the documents of so-called Catholic Social Teaching and in the documents of Catholic bishops’ conferences throughout the world.

He has degrees from the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia (B.A. in English and Religious Studies); the Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (Tropical Agriculture Research and Higher Education Center) in Turrialba, Costa Rica (M.Sc. in Tropical Agroecology); and Duke University in Durham, North Carolina (M.T.S). His articles have been published in *Nova et Vetera*, *Crosscurrents*, the *CTS Annual Volume*, *The Other Journal*, *Biodiversity and Conservation*, and *Agroforestería en las Américas*. He currently resides in Waco, Texas, with his wife, Natalie, along with their two daughters, Chora and Edith.

### **Moderator Biographies**

**William D. Dinges, Ph.D.**, Ordinary Professor of Religious Studies, School of Theology and Religious Studies, The Catholic University of America

Dr. Dinges is an Ordinary Professor of Religious Studies in the School of Theology and Religious Studies and a fellow of the Institute for Policy Research and Catholic Studies at The Catholic University of America. He received his Ph.D. in American Studies in 1983 from the University of Kansas, and has been on the faculty at Catholic University for the past twenty-eight years.

The research interests of Dr. Dinges include a variety of religion and culture topics: religious movements, religion and globalization, fundamentalism, religion in America (Catholicism in particular), and religion and ecology. He has published articles on these and related topics in *Sociological Analysis*, *U.S. Catholic Historian*, *Journal of Contemporary Religion*, *Religion and American Culture*, *The Way, The Living Light*, *America*, *Commonweal*, and in other scholarly and popular journals and anthologies. Dr. Dinges has a long-standing interest in Catholic traditionalism and was a contributor on the topic to the 'Fundamentalist Project' of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

**Fr. John Haughey, S.J., Ph.D.**, Fellow, Woodstock Theological Center at Georgetown University

Fr. Haughey currently coordinates Woodstock's Catholic Higher Education Project and is involved with the Arrupe Program in Social Ethics for Business. As part of his work for the Catholic Higher Education Project, he recently wrote *Where's Knowing Going: Horizons of the Knowing Subject* (Georgetown Press, 2009) and edited *In Search of the Whole: 12 Essays on Faith and Academic Life* (Georgetown Press, 2011).

Fr. Haughey also served as Associate and Corresponding Editor for *America* magazine. He has taught theology and religion at Georgetown University, Fordham University, Seton Hall University, Weston School of Theology, John Carroll University, and Marquette University, and was a professor of religious ethics at Loyola University Chicago. His other books include *Revisiting the Idea of Vocation* (Editor, Catholic University Press, 2004), *Housing Heaven's Fire* (Loyola Press, 2002), *Virtue and Affluence* (Sheed and Ward, 1997), *Converting Nine to Five: A Spirituality of Daily Work* (Crossroad/Continuum, 1989), and *The Holy Use of Money: Personal Finances in Light of Christian Faith* (Doubleday, 1986). Father Haughey is the receipt of the Monika K. Hellwig Award from the American Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities for his "outstanding contributions to Catholic higher education."

**Jame Schaefer, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Theology, Marquette University

Dr. Schaefer (Ph.D., Marquette University, 1994, Systematics/Ethics), focuses on the constructive relationship of theology, the natural sciences, and technology with special attention to religious foundations for ecological ethics. Her publications include *Theological Foundations for Environmental Ethics: Reconstructing Patristic and Medieval Concepts* (Georgetown University Press, 2009), *Confronting the Climate Crisis: Catholic Theological Perspectives* for which she served as the editor and a contributor (Marquette University Press, 2011), essays in several edited volumes, and articles in *Cistercian Studies Quarterly*, *Theological Studies*, and *Worldviews: Religion, Culture, Science*. She worked with faculty of other disciplines to develop the Interdisciplinary Minor in Environmental Ethics for which she serves as director and advises Students for an Environmentally Active Campus.

In progress are a monograph exploring the contributions that diverse disciplines make toward a cogent and fruitful understanding of the human person in our age of rapidly-advancing science and technology, an article reconstructing the doctrine of God's omnipotence to reflect our current scientific understanding

of the world, an essay inspired by Thomas Aquinas applying the various components of the virtue of prudence to the current interest in building more nuclear power plants to generate electricity, and a manuscript in which shared teachings of the major world religions are explored as foundations for constructing a global water ethic.

**Tobias Winright, Ph.D.**, Associate Professor of Theological Ethics, St. Louis University

Dr. Winright teaches and writes in the area of fundamental moral theology, and most of his courses and publications theologically address social questions such as war and peace, environmental ethics, economic justice, and issues in criminal justice. He continues to be interested in the work of professors with whom he was fortunate to study at the University of Notre Dame (Ph.D.) and Duke University Divinity School (M.Div.), including John Howard Yoder, Richard McCormick S.J., Jean Porter, Maura Ryan, Todd Whitmore, Harmon Smith, and Stanley Hauerwas.

Dr. Winright is coeditor (beginning 2013) of the Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics and also the book reviews editor for the international journal, Political Theology. His publications include *Violence, Transformation, and the Sacred: "They Shall Be Called Children of God"* (co-edited with Margaret Pfeil, Orbis Books, 2012), *Green Discipleship: Catholic Theological Ethics and the Environment* (edited, Anselm Academic, 2011) and *After the Smoke Clears: The Just War Tradition and Post War Justice* (coauthored with Mark J. Allman, Orbis Books, 2010).

### Special Thanks

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, The Catholic University of America, and the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change wish to express their appreciation and gratitude to all those who made this gathering possible:

#### USCCB Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development

Cecilia Calvo  
Kathy Saile  
Dr. Stephen Colecchi

#### The Catholic University of America

Dr. Stephen Schneck  
Michael Sean Winters, whose assistance with logistics and media advice proved invaluable

#### The Catholic Coalition on Climate Change

Dan Misleh  
Kolya Braun-Greiner  
Dan DiLeo

Staff and partners of the three sponsoring organizations wish to offer deep appreciation to members of the Selection Committee for their tireless work over the past year in helping to shape this event, narrowing down the list of proposals to these select twelve and offering advice throughout. They include:

**Sr. Ilia Delio, OSF, Ph.D.**  
**Lucia Silecchia, Esq.**  
**Dr. Bill Dinges**  
**Dr. Jame Schaefer**  
**Sr. Mary Ann Hinsdale, IHM, Ph.D.**  
**Br. Keith Warner, OFM, Ph.D.**  
**Dr. Tobias Winright**  
**Fr. John Haughey, S.J.**

We also owe a debt of gratitude to **Bishop Bernard Unabali** of Bougainville, Papua New Guinea, for traveling to the United States to share the story of the Carteret Islanders and to the following bishops for their participation in this important consultation:

Most Rev. Frank Dewane, Bishop of Venice  
Most Rev. Donald Kettler, Bishop of Fairbanks  
Most Rev. John Ricard, Bishop Emeritus of Pensacola-Tallahassee  
Most Rev. William Skylstad, Bishop Emeritus of Spokane  
Most Rev. Jaime Soto, Bishop of Sacramento

Finally, we wish to thank the National Religious Partnership for the Environment for their financial support of this conference.

## **Co-sponsoring Organizations**

### **United States Conference of Catholic Bishops**

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) is an assembly of the hierarchy of the United States and the U.S. Virgin Islands who jointly exercise certain pastoral functions on behalf of the Christian faithful of the United States. The USCCB's Environmental Justice Program (EJP) was created in 1993 to educate and motivate Catholics to a deeper reverence and respect for God's creation, and to encourage Catholics to address environmental problems, particularly as they affect poor and vulnerable people. EJP acts as a resource for Catholic dioceses and state Catholic conferences, and through them Catholic parishes.

### **The Catholic University of America**

As the national university of the Catholic Church in the United States, founded and sponsored by the bishops of the country with the approval of the Holy See, The Catholic University of America is committed to being a comprehensive Catholic and American institution of higher learning, faithful to the teachings of Jesus Christ as handed on by the Church. Dedicated to advancing the dialogue between faith and reason, The Catholic University of America seeks to discover and impart the truth through excellence in teaching and research, all in service to the Church, the nation and the world.

### **Catholic Coalition on Climate Change**

In 2006, the Catholic Coalition on Climate Change was launched with the support of both the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and the National Religious Partnership for the Environment. The Catholic Coalition on Climate Change supports and complements USCCB's Environmental Justice Program, an initiative of the Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development. The Coalition is a membership organization consisting of twelve national Catholic organizations that offer advice and assistance in implementing its programs:

- United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:
  - Department of Justice, Peace and Human Development
  - Migration and Refugee Services
- Catholic Charities USA
- Catholic Relief Services
- Catholic Health Association of the United States
- Conference of Major Superiors of Men
- National Catholic Rural Life Conference
- Franciscan Action Network
- National Council of Catholic Women
- Leadership Conference of Women Religious
- Association of Catholic Colleges and Universities
- Carmelite NGO
- National Catholic Education Association



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**Catholic Climate Covenant<sup>sm</sup>**  
Care for Creation. Care for the Poor.