



STEWARDS OF OUR EARTH All of God's Creation

Social Justice Committee, Holy Cross Parish, Mt. Airy, November 6, 2022

COP27: United Nations Climate Conference

“This year’s UN Climate Conference takes place in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt against a backdrop of extreme weather events worldwide, an energy crisis propelled by the war in Ukraine, and scientific data reiterating that the world is not doing enough to tackle carbon emissions and protect the future of our planet” (*UN News*, 10/28/22). **The COPs (Conference of the Parties) are the biggest and most important annual climate-related conferences on the planet.** COP27 is scheduled from November 6 -18.

“At COP26, countries agreed to deliver stronger commitments this year, including updated national plans with more ambitious targets. However, only 23 out of 193 countries have submitted their plans to the UN so far.... According to the Presidential vision statement, COP27 will be about **moving from negotiations, and ‘planning for implementation’** for all these promises and pledges made.” (*UN News*, 10/28/22)

Major topics include 1) **Mitigation**: how are countries reducing their emissions? 2) **Adaptation**: how are countries going to adapt and help others do the same? 3) **Climate Finance**: the elephant that never leaves the negotiating room.

“This year’s U.N. Climate Conference is one of the last opportunities the global community has to increase ambition quickly enough and to hold each other accountable before we are locked into centuries of climate damage” (Interfaith Power & Light, 9/23/22).

“As we continue to see the effects of climate change globally through drought, fires, floods, and other weather-related disasters, it is crucial that President Biden and the U.S. lead by example by taking bold pro-climate actions and making serious and ambitious investments to reduce our carbon emissions.

The climate provisions in the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) are a step in meeting the commitments we have made to the global community, and now it is time to do even more....” (Interfaith Power & Light, 10/11/22)

Tell the Biden administration to [act on climate actions at COP27](#) that call for dramatically reducing global greenhouse gas emissions; providing meaningful assistance to the nations and peoples most impacted by climate change; and supporting human rights throughout the talks and in climate solutions.

On a local level, a crucial action to take on November 8 is to VOTE! “Even though this is not a presidential election year, much is at stake, including control of the House and Senate, state legislatures, and for us here in Pennsylvania, the top executive branch offices and several ballot proposals” (Sisters of Mercy).

As Pope Francis has advised, “**Study the proposals well, pray and choose in conscience.**” —Pope Francis, Press Conference Response, 2016