



For Immediate Release

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## **Catholic Religious Leaders Call for Action on Climate Change**

**[Denver, CO]** Leaders of US orders of Catholic priests, brothers, and sisters issued a resolution calling their members to work for action on climate change.

The members of the Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM) and the Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR), who represent more than 86,000 of the country's Catholic sisters, brothers, and religious priests, met jointly in assembly in Denver, Colorado from August 1-4. During the meeting, the two conferences resolved to "seek concrete ways to curb environmental degradation, mitigate its impact on the poorest and most vulnerable people, and restore right relationships among all God's creation; and to foster a consciousness of care for God's creation among all our members, colleagues, institutions and those whom we serve."

The leaders noted that the increase in temperature on the earth will likely have widespread consequences from mass extinctions to devastating impacts on the lives and livelihoods of the poorest and most vulnerable human beings.

Among the actions that the leaders are encouraging their members to take include: promoting clean energy legislation; pressing candidates for office on their stance regarding climate change; replacing incandescent bulbs with Energy Star-rated ones; using programmable thermostats; purchasing "green" products; purchasing locally grown foods; purchasing hybrid cars; installing permeable surface driveways and parking areas; unplugging cell phone chargers and other appliances when not in use; reducing personal use of hot water, electricity, and heat; and using public transportation whenever possible.

The Conference of Major Superiors of Men and the Leadership Conference of Women Religious are comprised of approximately 2,300 men and women religious leaders who are responsible for more than 600 Catholic institutes in the United States.

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The **Conference of Major Superiors of Men (CMSM)** and the **Leadership Conference of Women Religious (LCWR)** supports and offers resources for U.S. leaders of Catholic men's and women's religious institutes. There are more than 86,000 religious priests, sisters and brothers in the United States.

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