

Talking Points for Petition Drives

BACKGROUND

In December 2015, world leaders will meet in the U.N. climate summit at Paris with the goal of signing a treaty to tackle climate change. Through this petition we aim to collect 1 million signatures to urge our political leaders to commit to ambitious climate action and solve this urgent crisis, with the goal of keeping the global temperature increase below 1.5 degree Celsius (aligned with the Catholic Bishops' 2014 Lima statement).

SUGGESTED SCRIPTS

Long version: Hello, I am a volunteer with the Global Catholic Climate Movement. Have you read the Pope's encyclical?

If yes: "Great, what did you think of it? Would you like to take action for the environment? You can sign this Catholic Climate Petition, which Pope Francis recently endorsed. The petition calls on world leaders to take action on climate change and will be presented to the UN at the Climate Change Conference in Paris this December. Would you like to add your name to it?"

If they answer they did not read the encyclical respond, "Pope Francis issued an encyclical entitled Laudato Si. It was a letter addressed to the Catholic and global community regarding our moral responsibility to care for creation. Creation is a gift from God. Yet we have been harming our environment, which is harming the poor among us and threatening our children's futures,. Would you like to join the Pope in caring for creation by signing this petition which he has endorsed? [SHOW PICTURES OF THE POPE WITH THE PETITION] It will send a signal to our world leaders to protect our environment and take action on climate change. The petition will be presented to the UN at their Climate Change Conference in Paris this December. Would you like to add your name to it?"

Short version: Hello, I am a volunteer with the Global Catholic Climate Movement. We are collecting signatures around the world to show our leaders that we support Pope Francis' encyclical on the environment. The Catholic Climate Petition was recently endorsed by Pope Francis [SHOW PICTURES OF THE POPE WITH THE PETITION] and calls on our world leaders to take important action on climate change for our future generations. Would you like to join our Holy Father in caring for creation by signing this petition?

Very short version: Would you like to join Pope Francis in caring for creation? Sign this petition which he endorsed asking our world leaders to take action on climate change when they meet this December. [SHOW PICTURES OF THE POPE WITH THE PETITION]

Things to keep in mind

- Smile, say hello, introduce yourself as a volunteer with the Global Catholic Climate Movement
- Show picture of Pope Francis looking at the petition.
- Some people may not be interested in signing or even listening. Don't be discouraged!
- Pray before you begin that the Holy Spirit might work through you in your efforts.