

PRAY FOR THE PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT

ABOUT THE PARIS CLIMATE AGREEMENT

PRAYERS FROM THE FRONT LINES OF CLIMATE CHANGE

[First day of the meeting, November 6: Pacific Islands](#)

[Second day of the meeting, November 7: Portugal](#)

[Third day of the meeting, November 8: Amazonia](#)

[Fourth day of the meeting, November 9: United States](#)

[Fifth day of the meeting, November 10: Nigeria](#)

[Sixth day of the meeting, November 11: Germany](#)

[Seventh day of the meeting, November 12: Caribbean Islands](#)

[Eighth day of the meeting, November 13: Australia](#)

[Ninth day of the meeting, November 14: Ecuador](#)

[Tenth day of the meeting, November 15: Philippines](#)

[Eleventh day of the meeting, November 16: India](#)

[Twelfth day of the meeting, November 17: Kenya](#)

GLOBAL CLIMATE TALKS TIMELINE (CLICK TO EXPAND)



"Resolute, determined and committed support for climate protection is not a side issue for the Christian faith, but rather an acid test for its power of liberating hope, creative innovation and unrelenting justice."

- Bishops of Germany

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In 2015, the global community achieved a major step forward in the search for solutions to the climate crisis. That year, in Paris, countries agreed on a framework to limit greenhouse gas emissions.

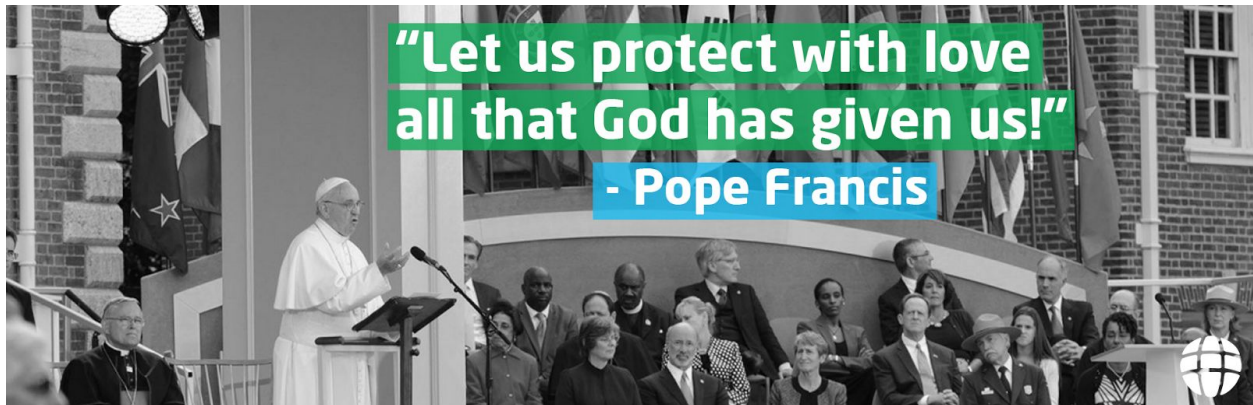
The agreement means concrete progress on climate is within our reach. Along with Jeremiah, we rejoice in the Creator who gives us "a future and a hope."

This year, countries are meeting again. They now decide on a "rule book" for the agreement they reached in Paris. The meeting will take place in Bonn, Germany, from November 6 to November 17.

Below, you'll find a prayer for each day of the talks. We've suggested you use these on the dates in question, but please feel free to pray as you are moved. People around the world will be praying with you. Together, we are a mighty force for creation.

The people who speak for their countries at this meeting have many considerations in mind. Let's pray for them to remember the ordinary folks they represent, and for a spirit of compassion, courage, and love to prevail.

PRAYERS FROM THE FRONT LINES OF CLIMATE CHANGE



First day of the meeting, November 6: Pacific Islands

Columban Missionaries in Fiji

:]1]gH YW! \cghcZH YWffYbhfcI bX'cZV]a UHY'JU_gzk \JW UFY'h YbYI hghYd]b'h YDUF]gs
U]fYYa Ybh's

- Local issue: Low-lying Pacific Islands are threatened by catastrophic sea level rise. Fiji has already relocated its first climate refugees; [the entire nation of Kribati](#) has purchased land to resettle its people.
- **We pray that refugees from the climate crisis find peace and Fijian “Bula vinaka,” or a spirit of welcome, in their new homes. We pray that migration policies include climate refugees among those who need special consideration.**
- Church teaching: ; cX WYUF' mUbX' fYdYUHYX' nifYV]ta a YbXg\cgd]hU]]mUbX [YbYfcg]]ms
hck UFX'h YghfUb [YF" fDcdY>c\ b DUi ' ' ts

Second day of the meeting, November 7: Portugal

Pedro Vaz Patto, National Justice and Peace Commission of Portugal

- Local issue: Portugal was recently devastated by deadly wildfires that were made more likely because of climate change. A group of [Portuguese children is suing](#) the nations in Europe that emit the most greenhouse gases for their failure to pass more robust climate policies.
- Prayer: **We pray for the young and future generations, who will inherit the short-sightedness of past generations. We pray that wisdom grows, and that we take to heart the imperative to protect young people and all our vulnerable sisters and brothers.**

- Church teaching: *M̄i b['dYcd'YXYa UbXWUb[Y''H Ymk cbXYf \ ck UbncbYVUb WU]a hcs VYVi]X]b[UVYHYf Z̄ hi fYk]h̄ci h̄h̄]b_]b['cZH Y Ybj]fcbā YbhU V̄]g]gUbXh̄ Y'gj ZZYf]b[gs cZH Y YI W XYX" f̄Ūi XUhc Ḡ ž% ts*

Third day of the meeting, November 8: Amazonia

- Frei Éderson Queiroz, Franciscan Family Local issue: The Amazon is home to about 15,000 species of trees, all of them beautiful testaments to the Creator. Scientists predict that at the recent rate of extinction, [over 50%](#) of the tree species in the Amazon will vanish in the coming decades. Environmental advocates are putting their lives and livelihoods on the line to protect the Amazon.
- Prayer: **We pray for all of the creatures that suffer poor stewardship of creation, and we pray peace for the courageous advocates who are standing up for the Amazon.**
- Church teaching: *K YV̄obchZU] 'hc dfU]gY h̄ YV̄ta a]ha Ybh̄cZ]bhYfbUh]cbU U[YbV]Ygs UbXV]] 'gcV]Yh̄m̄cf[Ub]nUh]cbgk \]W """"Ybḡi fYh̄ UhYUW [cj Yfba YbhV̄ff]Yḡci h]hgs dfcdYf UbX]bU]YbUV Y fYḡdcbg]V]]h̄m̄hc dfYḡYfj Y]hgV̄ti bh̄fmḡYbj]fcbā YbhUbX'buhi fUs fYḡci fV̄ḡk]h̄ci hV̄d]hi `Uh]b['hc ḡdi f]ci ḡ`cW̄`cf]bhYfbUh]cbU]bhYfYḡḡ' f̄Ūi XUhc Ḡ s ', ts*

Fourth day of the meeting, November 9: United States

Dan Misleh, Catholic Climate Covenant

- Local issue: The recent [wildfires](#) in California, [flooding](#) in Texas, and [hurricanes](#) in Puerto Rico were all made more likely and more intense by climate change. Scores of people were killed, millions of people are still in danger and in distress, thousands of homes and businesses were lost, and recovery is just beginning.
- Prayer: **We pray that the Holy Spirit increases compassion for the victims of extreme weather, that they find God's grace and peace amid their loss, and that the nation's leaders open their hearts and minds to the realities of climate change.**
- Church teaching: *;]j Y'gca Yh̄]b[ž'ck Yj Yf'ga U`žhc h̄ Y'cbY]b bYYX": cf]h]gbch̄ga U`s hc'cbYk \ c \ Uḡbch̄]b["BY]h̄ Yf]g]h̄ga U`hc ; cXž]Zk Y \ Uj Y []j Yb k \ Uhk YV̄ti `X" f̄Ḡh̄s ; fY[cfr̄BUh]UbnYb̄k*

Fifth day of the meeting, November 10: Nigeria

Rev. Christopher Amaubosi, Bishop Okoye Spiritan Secondary School

- Northern Nigeria, a land traditionally inhabited by herders, has seen an explosive growth in the size of its deserts. The herders who have long grazed their livestock in these areas are being forced to seek better grounds. This in turn [fuels fatal conflicts](#) with farmers who live in places the herders try to occupy. The growth of the desert is partially driven by climate change, and Nigerian herders contribute vanishingly small amounts of greenhouse gas emissions.

- Prayer: **We pray for the safety of people who are affected by growing deserts. We pray for compassion and healing in their new homes. In our pilgrimage of hope, Creator, draw us into deeper solidarity with vulnerable people.**
- Church teaching: *K Y'1 X[Y'ci fgY'j YgUgUVta a i b]fmcZZU]h Vmth Yk Unk Y'fYUth Ys a cghj i `bYfUV'YUa cb[i g' f@YthYf Zfca h Y V]g\cdg'cZA YI]Vt'UbX'h Y'1 b]hYX'GHUhg*

Sixth day of the meeting, November 11: Germany

Gertrud Casel, German Justice and Peace Commission

- Local issue: Nations do have the power to make significant progress on climate change. Germany recently [broke a record in clean energy](#), getting 35% of its electricity from clean sources in the first half of 2017.
- Prayer: **We pray that the transition to clean energy is just and swift.**
- Church teaching: *H YfY]gUb i f[YbhbyYX'hc XYj Y'cd'dc`]VWg'gc h Uh'z]b h Y'bYI hZYk s nYUfg'zh Y Ya]gg]cb'cZVfVcb X]cl]XYUbX'ch Yf \][\`m'dc`i h]b[[UgYgVUb VY XfUgh]W`ns fYXi WXzZcf YI Ua d'Y'z'g Vgh]hi h]b[Zcf Zcgg] z' Y'gUbX'XYj Y'cd]b['gci fWg'cZfYbYk UV'Ys YbYf[n' f@U XUh'G] z'&*ts*

Seventh day of the meeting, November 12: Caribbean Islands

Waldo Brea, Youth Institute of the Dominican Republic

- Local issue: 40 million people live in the Caribbean, which is threatened by increased hurricanes and rising seas. An open-source project [is sharing climate predictions](#) to help Caribbean nations adapt.
- Prayer: **We pray that the people of the Caribbean and all sisters and brothers around the world continue to find ways to safely adapt to the new reality of climate change.**
- *7\i fW hYUW]b[. ' 5 ZFU.]Yk cf XzYbhf i ghYX Vm' cX'hc \i a Ub WfYz'WU`Yb[Ygi g'hcs XYj]gY]bhY`][Ybhk Ung'cZX]fYV]b[z'XYj Y'cd]b[z'UbX`ja]h]b['ci f'dck Yf" f@U XUh'G] '+, ts*

Eighth day of the meeting, November 13: Australia

Jacqui Redmond, GCCM Steering Committee Member

- Local issue: Australia has been devastated by droughts that are made more likely by climate change. It also has some of the biggest coal mines in the world, and its leaders just [dropped national clean energy targets](#).
- Prayer: **We pray that Australia's leaders see the wisdom of stepping away from carbon-intensive energy, such as coal and gas, and stepping towards clean energy that will protect the land and its people.**
- Church teaching: *Di h'Ub YbX'hc h Y Zcgg] z' Y' YfUz'UbX'dfcj]XY UZZcfXUV Yz'fY']UV Y'UbXs gUZY'fYbYk UV'Y UMWgg Zcf U`" f@]g\cdg'Zfca U` Vt]b]bYbh'g'g'GHU'Ya Ybh'Zcf '7CD&?ts*

Ninth day of the meeting, November 14: Ecuador

Dayana Baño, GCCM Chapter Ecuador

- Local issue: In Gualaquiza, Ecuador, [Indigenous leaders recently held a tribunal](#) for large-scale mining companies that they have seen displace communities and disrespect creation. The companies mine for copper, which is used in mobile phones.
- Prayer: **We pray that communities on the front lines of the environmental crisis will lift their voices and be heard. We pray that patterns of consumption will change, and start protecting the Earth and its people.**
- Church teaching: *K Y' bchY' h UhicZ' hYb h Y Vi gjbYggYgk \ JW' cdYfUH' h Jgk UmUFYs a i `h]bUh]cbU'g' H YmXc \ YfY' k \ Uh' h Ymk ci `X' bYj Yf Xc]b XYj Y' cdYX W' i bhf]Yg' cf' h Ys gc! W' YX Z]fghk cf' X" f6]g\ cdg' cZ' h Y DUHU[cb]U' 7ca U' i YFY[]cbts*

Tenth day of the meeting, November 15: Philippines

Yeb Sano, Greenpeace Southeast Asia and Board Member, GCCM

- Local issue: Four years ago this month, [Typhoon Yolanda](#) (also known as Haiyan) tore through the Philippines, leaving a massive trail of devastation, killing thousands of people and displacing millions. The typhoon was made more likely by climate change. Small-scale farmers, fisherfolk, and impoverished communities have limited resources to recover after devastation like Yolanda's. Climate change is bringing ongoing instability to the region, and the poor are struggling to adapt.
- Prayer: **We pray for the ingenuity and resilience of the Filipino people. We pray for a spirit of compassion and solidarity among people who live in nations and economies with excessive greenhouse gas emissions and unsustainable lifestyles.**
- Church teaching: *A UbmcZ' h Y' dccf `j] Y]b UfYUg'dUfh]W' Uf' mUZZVMMX Vmid\ Ybca YbUs fY' UH' X' h' k Ufa]b[z' UbX' h' Y]f' a YUbg' cZ' gi Vg]ghYbW UfY' Uf[Y' mXYdYbXYbhicb bUhi fUs fYgYfj YgUbX YW' gng' h' a]WgYfj]Wg' gi W U' gU[f]W' h' i fYz' Z]g']b[z' UbX' Z' cfYgh' m' i' f' U' i XUh' 'G] z' s &) ts*

Eleventh day of the meeting, November 16: India

Bishop Allwyn D'Silva, Auxiliary Bishop of Archdiocese of Bombay

- Local issue: Unpredictable monsoons and flooding, which are more likely because of climate change, have contributed to [2.3 million people in India](#) becoming homeless as a result of extreme weather just this year. In addition to being homeless, some of these families are grieving. Over 1,000 people were killed in South Asian floods this fall.
- Prayer: **We pray that South Asia will grow in its resilience to climate catastrophes. We pray that everyone will have a safe home and support to recover from disasters.**
- Church teaching: *9Zzcfhg' hc UXXfYggV]a UhY WUub[Y' a i gh' hU_ Y]bhc UW' ti bhVfYUh]cbs UbX]hg' fY Uh]cbg\]d' hc `h Y `YUgh' cZ' h YgY" f] b]hYX' GHU' Yg' 7cbZYfYbW' cZ' 7U' h' c']V6]g\ cdgts*

Twelfth day of the meeting, November 17: Kenya

Timothy Njeru, Caritas Kenyas

- In Kenya, [smallhold farmers and pastoralists like the Maasai](#) are threatened by climate change, which makes rainfall unpredictable. This affects both the cattle they traditionally manage and the garden farms they've turned to as a substitute.
- Prayer: **We pray for the goodwill and grace of Indigenous people and all people whose children will not live as they have because of the changing climate.**
- Church teaching: *b h]ggYbgYz]h]gYggYbh]U hc'g\ck'gdYV]U WfY'Zcf]bX][Ybci gs Vta a i b]h]YgUbX'h Y]f W'hi fU hfUX]h]cbg''''''': cf h Ya z`UbX]g'bchUVta a cX]hmVi hs fU'h Yf U[]zhZfca ; cX'UbX'Zfca h Y]f UbWghc'fgk \c'fYgh'h YfYz'U'gUMfYX'gdUW'k]h's k \]W'h YmbYYX'hc]bhYfUMh]Z'h YmUFY'hc'a U]bhU]b h Y]f]XYbh]hmUbXj U i Yg'f'f'U XUhc'G] z %' *E*

