



## COP24 *Katowice, Poland 2018*

In December 2018 the United Nations Climate Summit COP (Conference of the Parties) will take place in Katowice, Poland. At these global conferences action for climate policy is negotiated. In 2015 world leaders signed the Paris Agreement in which countries agreed to limit global world temperature increase to below 1.5 degrees Celsius.

However, much work remains to be done. A recent report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has reiterated the vital need to take immediate action. It has pointed to the fact that current research suggests that any increase in temperature in excess of 1.5 C could seriously threaten the 'livability' of the planet. The report also said that to prevent catastrophic change urgent measures need to happen now. This will entail large scale adjustments from governments and individuals. Global systems, including energy, land use, cities and industry will require rapid and significant attention. It also says that individuals must adopt new lifestyles in areas as diverse as food consumption, transportation and areas of

domestic life including how we wash our clothes and insulate our homes.

The report also noted that change is happening faster than previously anticipated and that essentially in just over a decade the world will reach a tipping point, if drastic action is not taken now.

Pope Francis in his Encyclical *Laudato Si* considers the urgent necessity for all humanity to come together to address climate change and care for our common home. He also notes that climate change is presently having the greatest impact on the world's poorest and most vulnerable communities. Ironically, it is these communities in the developing world that have contributed least to greenhouse gas emissions. There is a moral imperative to act now through individual by adopting lifestyle changes, and through advocacy and prayer.

**To learn more about the IPCC's report see:**

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment->

## What you can do!

**Take the opportunity to learn more about climate change and how you can make a difference:**

- **Write** to your MP (forms available).
- **Pray** the Ecological Examen - <http://www.ecologicalexamen.org/>
- **Follow** the news from COP24. S
- end a prayer intention to a COP 24 **pilgrim**.
- Adopt Care for our Common Home **lifestyle changes**.