LAUDATO SI' REVOLUTION COURSE

SPEAKERS 2020

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Ms. Yamide Dagnet, born in the Caribbean island of Guadaloupe, is Director of Climate Negotiations at World Resource Institute in Washington DC – a global research non profit organization whose mission is to promote environmental sustainability, economic opportunity, and human health and well-being.

Yamide is a former European Union climate negotiator, United Kingdom Deputy Focal Point for the IPCC. She led projects and engagement on climate negotiations for the implementation of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. Her work included efforts towards creating transparent and verifiable climate data, accountability mechanisms for national commitments, and capacity building environments to transition toward a sustainable and fair zero-carbon and climate-resilient economy. She also contributed to bringing the issues of justice and equity into climate negotiations.

Yamide brings more than 18 years of experience in advancing environmental objectives, having worked for the UK, French and Belgian governments, including as a policy lead and negotiator on the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
Keith Douglass Warner OFM is a Franciscan Friar in the St. Barbara Province (California). He has taught at Santa Clara University since 2003 and is currently Chief Learning Officer for Miller Center for Social Entrepreneurship. He directs the Global Social Benefit Fellowship, which provides a comprehensive program of mentored, field-based study and research for undergraduates within the Center’s worldwide network of social entrepreneurs. He also directs Miller Center’s partnership with the Association of Consecrated Women of Eastern and Central Africa and designs the social enterprise leadership formation program for Catholic Sisters.

He has published extensively in Franciscan environmental ethics and, with Sr. Ilia Delio OSF and Pamela Wood, is co-author of “Care for Creation: A Franciscan Spirituality of the Earth” (Franciscan Media). He holds a MA in Spirituality from the Franciscan School of Theology/Graduate Theological Union (Berkeley) and a Ph.D. in Environmental Studies from the University of California/Santa Cruz.

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INFORMATION

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Sr. Dawn M. Nothwehr, OSF, Ph.D. is a Rochester, Minnesota Franciscan, and the Erica and Harry John Family Professor of Catholic Theological Ethics at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago. The mandate of the John Family Chair is to promote the Roman Catholic Consistent Ethic of Life, advanced by Cardinal Bernardin, and thus, her research and teaching addresses a variety of issues. Her primary focus is environmental ethics through the lens of Franciscan theology, especially the effects of global climate change on poor people. Equal concerns include the religion/science dialogue, the ethics of power and racial justice, and fundamental moral theology. Among her many publications is Ecological Footprints: An Essential Franciscan Guide for Faith and Sustainable Living (Liturgical Press 2012).

In 2017 Sr. Dawn received the Franciscan Federation’s “Inspiration for the 21st Century Award” for her contribution to Franciscan theological education. She is a leading Catholic environmental ethicist, and in 2012 was acknowledged among the top twenty-five eco-theologians in The U.S. Heartland by The National Council of Churches of Christ Ecojustice Programs. Since 2015 she has served on the Encyclical Working Group of the Office of Human Dignity of the Archdiocese of Chicago, whose mission is the education and implementation of Laudato Si’.

Dr. Nothwehr has served the Catholic Theology Society of America, as a National Board Member, Convener of the Moral Theology section, and Co-Convener of the Women’s Consultation in Constructive Theology. She is Co-Convener of the Environmental Ethics and Theology section of the Society of Christian Ethics. Dr. Nothwehr has contributed to The New Theology Review CTU’s peer reviewed journal, as Editorial Board Member, Editor, and Co-Editor. She has also directed CTU’s M. Div. Degree Program and the Certificate in Healthcare Mission Leadership Program.

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Steeven Kezamutima is a human rights, Peace and Climate Change consultant from Nairobi, Kenya. In 2010, he started an environmental movement in the Great Lakes region (Rwanda, DRC, and Burundi) with Association St Francois d’Assise of which he was deputy Chairperson. Artist musician and leader of Waka Waka Band, Steeven is currently known as Baba Miti – which means Father of Trees – in recognition of his love and passion for growing trees through the regional Birthday Tree Planting Campaign that he started.

Steeven is the author of the current hit songs: AntiCovid-19, and Laudato Si Celebration. Inspired by Franciscan spirituality, he organized last year the biggest global climate strike in Kenya and Tanzania. Steeven holds a degree in clinical and social psychology from Great Lakes University of Bujumbura and is a finalist of Masters in the Centre for Social Justice and Ethics at the Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Nairobi. Since 2019, Steeven has been chosen by the Global Catholic Climate Movement to be part of the Global Laudato Si Generation team as its Africa Representative. Furthermore, he works as a Program Manager in the office of Justice Peace and Integrity of Creation Franciscans Africa based at Nairobi, Kenya.
Br. Peter Lyons, is a friar of the Sacred Heart Province, TOR, currently teaching in the religious studies department of St. Francis University in Loretto, PA. He is also involved in retreat ministry, prison ministry, and weekend preaching for Food for the Poor, a relief and development mission serving the Caribbean and Central America. Previously Peter served as pastor of two inner city parishes in Baltimore, Maryland, and campus minister and pastor in Fort Worth, Texas.

His service to the Franciscan family has included membership on the Board of the Franciscan Action Network, committee and pilgrimage ministry with the Franciscan Federation, and participation in the Franciscan Internship Program in Spiritual Direction.
Br. Edward Tverdek, OFM is a friar of the Sacred Heart Province in the U.S. He ministers as a Priest/Confessor at St. Peter’s Church in Chicago, IL, where he is also an Adjunct Lecturer in Philosophy at Catholic Theological Union.

Edward has been involved in environmental politics since 1985, having been a founding member of the Chicago-area chapter of the “Committees of Correspondence” – a decentralized network of local eco-activists throughout the U.S. that would later evolve into the Green Party. His 2015 book, The Moral Weight of Ecology, is available on Lexington Press.

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Tobias A. Harkleroad, OFS
currently serves as the founding principal of Saint Francis International School in Silver Spring, Maryland, which is affiliated with St. Camillus Church, a parish led by the Franciscan friars of Holy Name Province. SFIS has an intentional mission to apply the Franciscan values of justice, peace, and integrity of creation to the ministry of forming children and youth.

Toby began his Franciscan journey at the Capuchins’ St. Lawrence Seminary High School with the dream of a vocation in Catholic education. He received a B.S.Ed. degree in History and Citizenship Education before earning a M.Ed. in Catholic School Leadership. Prior to becoming an administrator, Toby taught middle school social studies and religion and high school Theology. In addition to his ministries at St. Camillus Church and SFIS, he has served as an education policy advisor for the Maryland Catholic Conference for over a decade.

His research into ministry formation aimed at youth has been published in Seminary Journal and Toby has presented in multiple venues on a wide range of topics related to education, catechesis, and formation. SFIS has received national awards for its leadership in promoting diversity and for its innovative approach to teaching justice and peace. Toby made his solemn profession as a Secular Franciscan in 2019. He lives in Bowie, Maryland, with his children, Margaret and Joseph, who attend SFIS.
Paul Campion is a full time organizer with the Sunrise Movement where he supports over 380 Hubs (chapters) organizing for good jobs and a livable future across the country. Sunrise is a movement of young people in the United States to stop climate change and create millions of good jobs in the process.

He graduated from Loyola University Chicago with a BS in Environmental Science in 2019. At Loyola, he conducted independent research about precipitation patterns in the Midwest and helped start the Sunrise Chicago Hub.

Paul lives in community at the Emmaus House Catholic Worker in Chicago, Illinois. His initial fire for climate justice was lit growing up as a parishioner at a Franciscan parish, St. Camillus Catholic Church in Silver Spring, Maryland.

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Joelle Novey is the director of Interfaith Power & Light (DC.MD.NoVA), which works with hundreds of congregations of many traditions across Maryland, DC, and Northern Virginia to save energy, go green, and respond to climate change, and speaks widely on the role that faith communities can play in the climate movement. She’s active in several Jewish communities in the DC area, including Minyan Segulah and Tikkun Leil Shabbat.

In 2015, IPL-DMV did a year-long program to engage Catholic parishes and other people of faith across the region in studying the papal encyclical Laudato Si and responding to its call to all people of good will to address the climate crisis.
Imam Mohammed Khan has earned PH.D. in Biochemistry from the University of Maryland. For the past 30 years, he worked as a scientist at National Institutes of Health (NIH). He also has an M.S. degree in Islamic Law and Sharia from Idara Millia, India. Imam Khan has been providing pastoral care to Muslim patients and their families, including staff at NIH for 20 years and at Walter Reed for past 8 years. He has a deep passion for serving humanity, which he regards as one family.

Imam Khan is a member of the Sharia Board of greater Washington DC and serves as advisor to area Mosques in issues dealing with youth and family matters.
Jacek Orzechowski, OFM is a Franciscan friar of Holy Name Province. He was born and grew up in Poland arriving to the United States at the age of 18, where he has joined the Order. Over the last 17 years, Jacek has ministered at the multicultural parishes in North Carolina and in Maryland. Currently, he serves at Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington in the area of parish community organizing and advocacy. He is also a member of the Justice, Peace and the Integrity of Creation Animation Committee of the Order of Friars Minor. Jacek has been involved in a variety of advocacy actions around social and climate justice.