



# Caring for our Common Home

Laura Noctor-King, Director of Sustainability Program,  
Global Catholic Climate Movement (GCCM)



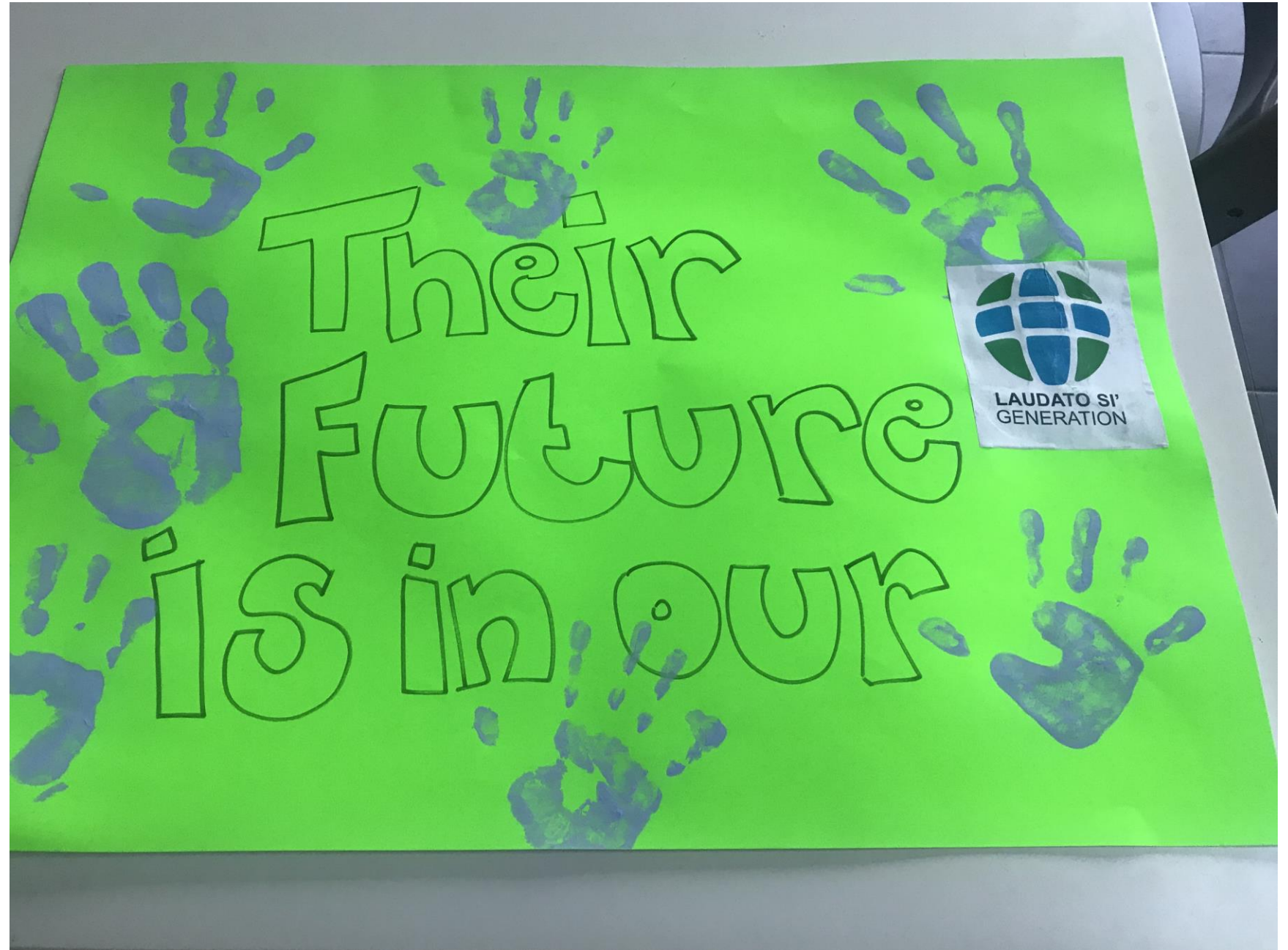
Projekt „Ekologia integralna encykliki Laudato Si’ w działaniu wspólnot Caritas i społeczności lokalnych” realizowany przez Caritas Polska, został dofinansowany ze środków Narodowego Funduszu Ochrony Środowiska i Gospodarki Wodnej. Za jego treść odpowiada wyłącznie Caritas Polska.

I joined GCCM in March  
2019

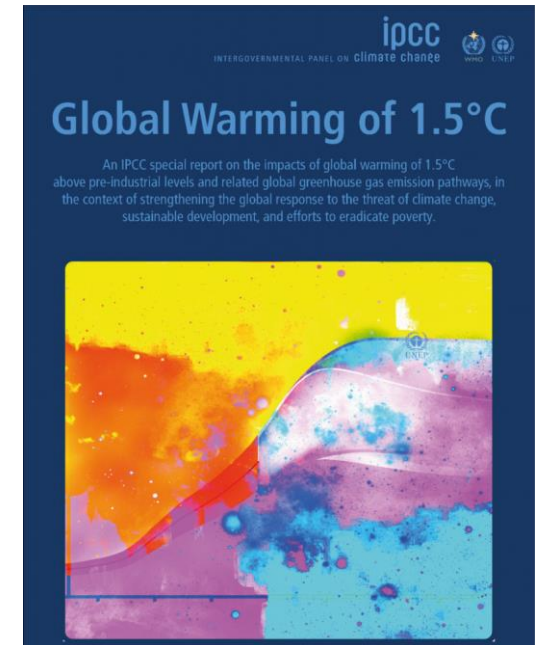
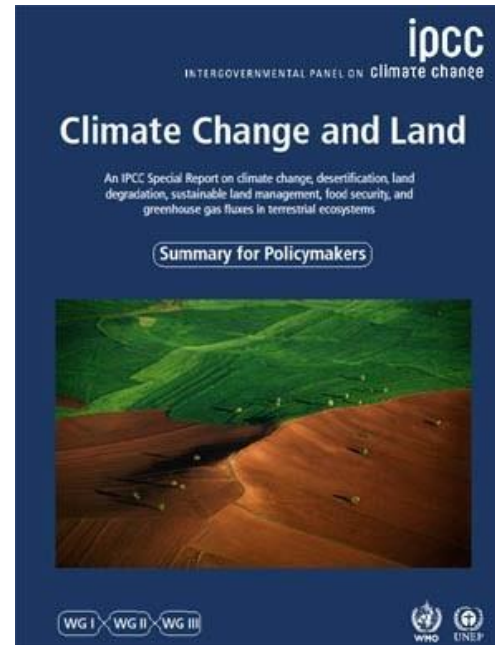
Currently developing a  
program to help Catholic  
institutions to reduce  
carbon

Not a scientist!!

Just like you, I care about  
the future we are leaving  
behind



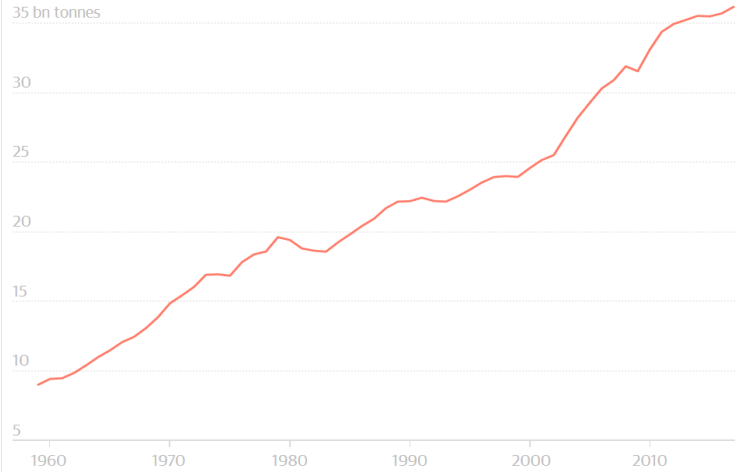
- **Challenges**
- **Implications**
- **Hope, prayer  
and action**





# Challenges

### CO2 emissions from fossil fuel burning



Guardian graphic | Source: Global Carbon Project

## IPCC Report 1.5 October 2018

The world is getting hotter - Co2 is the number one driver

The level of CO<sub>2</sub> has been rising since the industrial revolution and is now at its highest for about 4 million years the rate - [the fastest for 66m years](#) – with scientists saying we are in “uncharted territory”

We are not meeting goal for temp increase to be kept to a 1.5 maximum

We are simply burning too much fossil fuel, (coal, oil and gas).

We are running out of time (scientists predict around 10 years) and damage could be irreversible

## IPCC report Climate Change and land (2019)

The felling of forests for timber, cattle, soy and palm oil is a big contributor to carbon emissions. It is also a major cause of the [annihilation of wildlife on Earth](#).

The recent IPCC report states that although most discussions have been focused on energy, industry and transport, land is critically important as well both as a source of greenhouse gas emission and a solution

The way we are using land is worsening climate change -we need to change how we produce and manage land

There is huge potential for land to act as a giant carbon sink





## Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) 2019 ‘Unprecedented’; Species Extinction Rates ‘Accelerating’

1 million animal and plant species are now threatened with extinction, many within decades, more than ever before in human history

The average abundance of native species in most major land-based habitats has fallen by at least 20%, mostly since 1900. More than 40% of amphibian species, almost 33% of reef-forming corals and more than a third of all marine mammals are threatened


Based on the systematic review of about 15,000 scientific and government sources, the Report also draws (for the first time ever at this scale) on indigenous and local knowledge, particularly addressing issues relevant to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities.



The Report also tells us that it is not too late to make a difference, but only if we start now at every level from local to global - fundamental, system-wide reorganization across technological, economic and social factors, including paradigms, goals and values.”

These culprits are, in descending order: (1) changes in land and sea use; (2) direct exploitation of organisms; (3) climate change; (4) pollution and (5) invasive alien species.





**MORE THAN 8 MILLION  
TONS** of **PLASTIC** are  
dumped in our oceans  
**EVERY YEAR**



**1 IN 3 SPECIES**  
of marine mammals have  
been found **ENTANGLED**  
**IN MARINE LITTER**



**OVER 90%**  
of all seabirds have  
**PLASTIC** pieces **IN**  
**THEIR STOMACHS**

Source: [plasticoceans.org](http://plasticoceans.org)

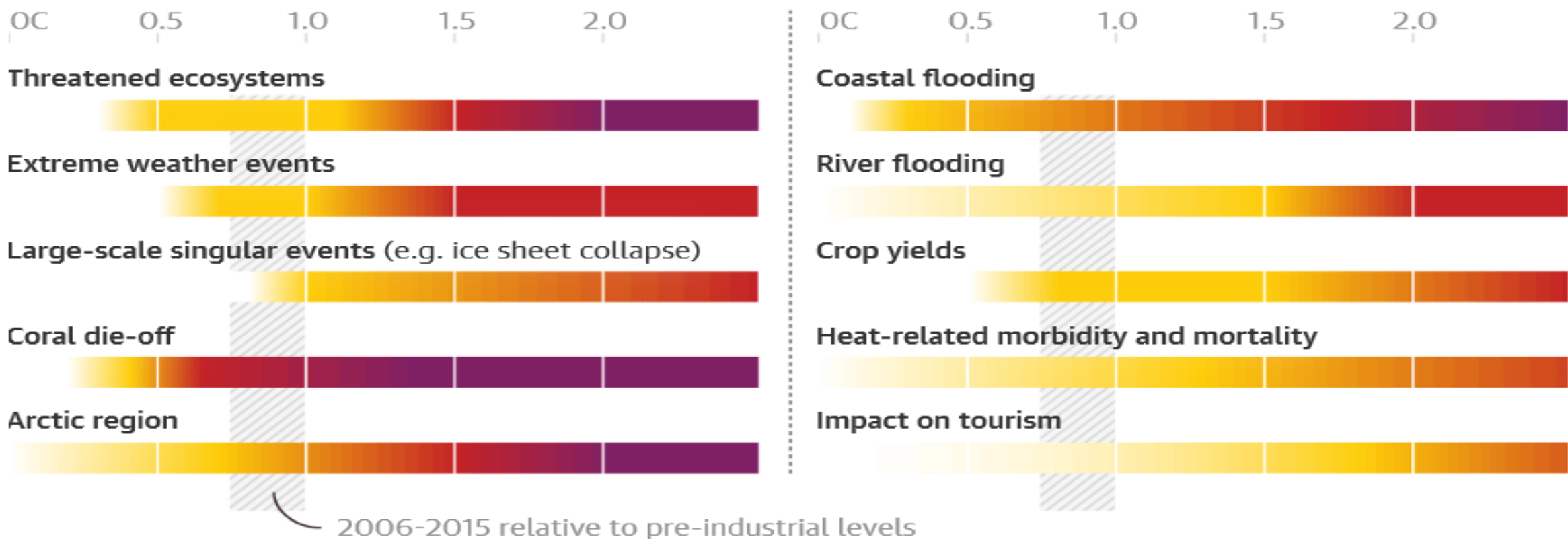
# Implications

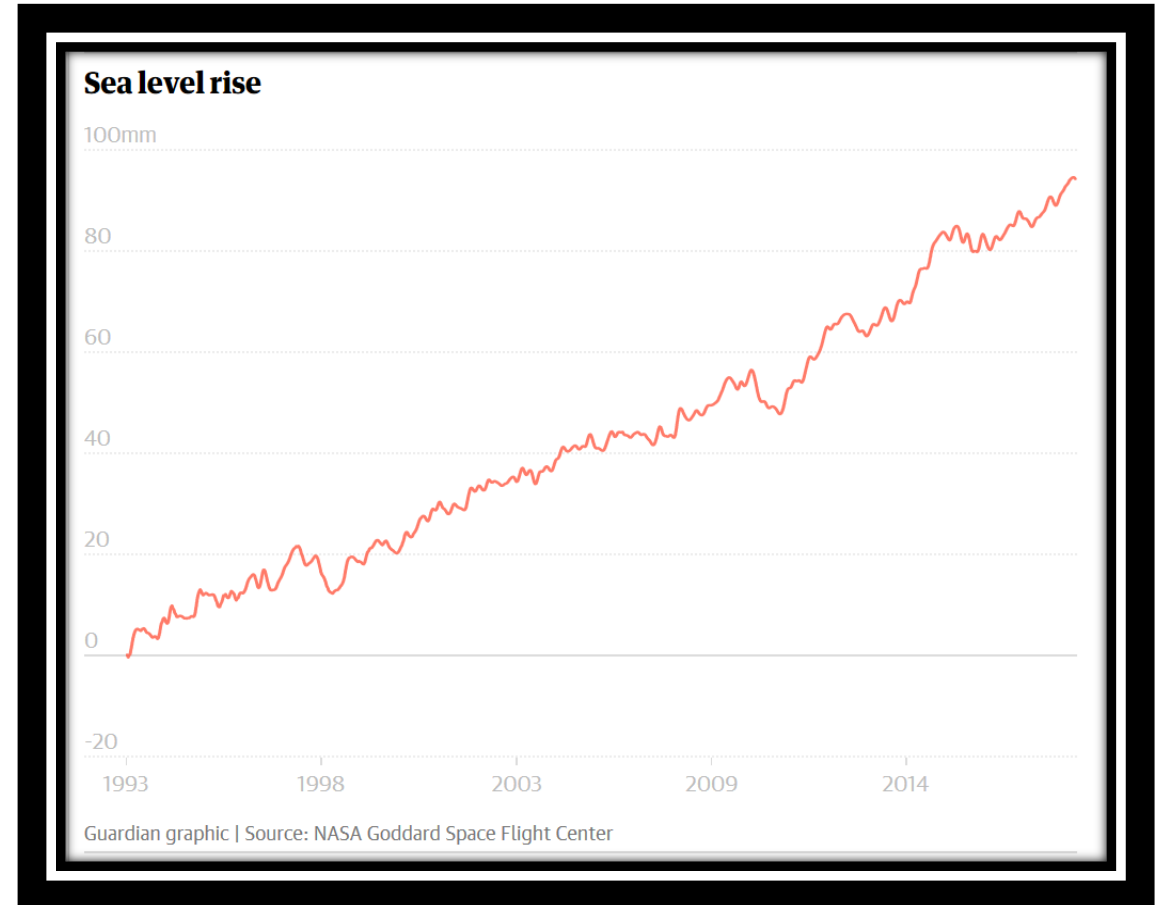
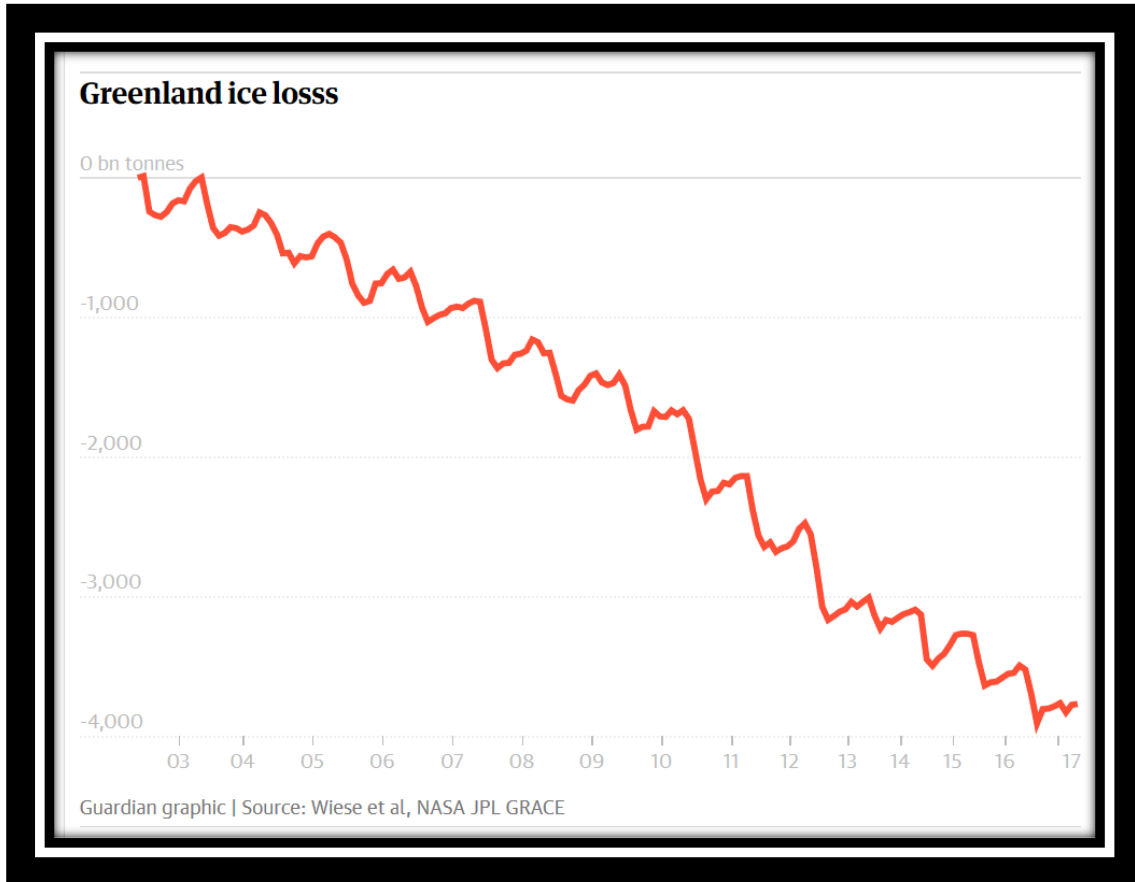
# Rising temperatures, rising risks

## Key to impacts and risks



## Global mean surface temperature change relative to pre-industrial levels, C

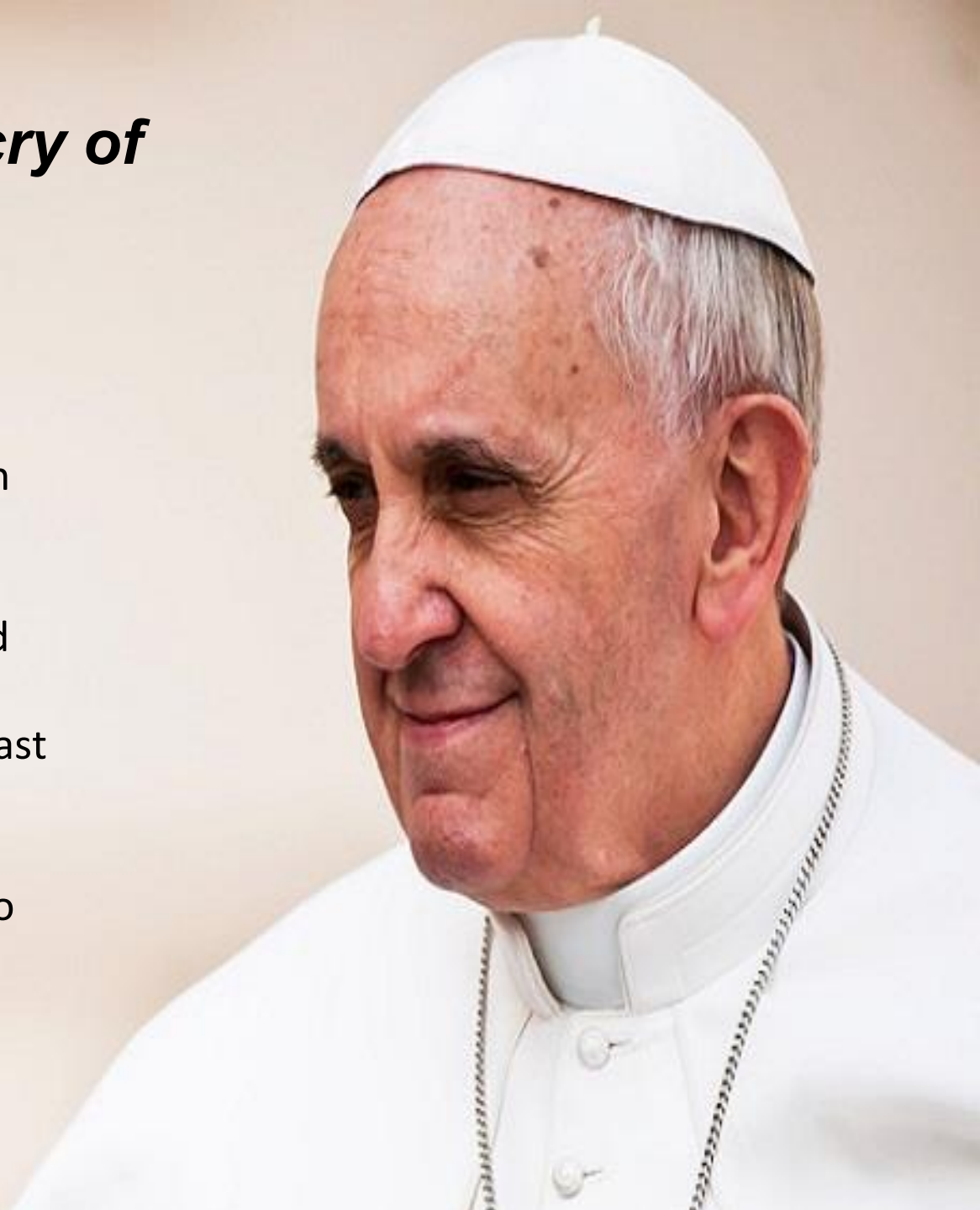




Sea levels are inexorably rising as ice on land melts and hotter oceans expand. Sea levels are slow to respond to global heating, so even if the temperature rise is restricted to 2C, [one in five people in the world will eventually see their cities submerged](#), from New York to London to Shanghai. (source: the Guardian)

## ***“Hear the cry of the Earth and the cry of the Poor”***

- We are creating a world that is not safe for humans to live in
- And a UN state of the nation report estimated 1 million plant and animal species at risk
- “unprecedented” decline in global biodiversity has alarming implications for human health, prosperity and long-term survival
- Climate change is unfair, those who contributed the least suffer the most
- Climate change is a threat multiplier (poverty, food shortage, inadequate living conditions, lack of access to clean water...) made worse





**Hope, prayer and action**



4 million



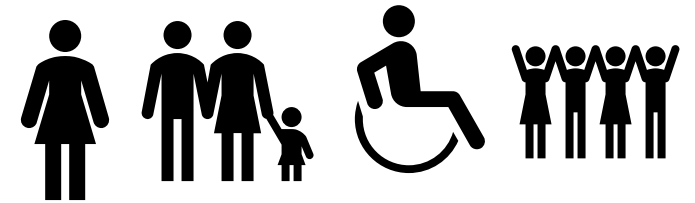
With our size and global reach, the Catholic community can make a huge difference if we change the way we live, travel and consume.



Hundreds of thousands of buildings  
(Churches, hospitals, schools etc.)



Landholdings **bigger than**  
**France**



And..... 1.2 **billion** change agents



The **largest** nongovernmental healthcare  
provider in the world

Laura@catholicclimatemovement.global

Thank you!

# Dziękuję



Dofinansowano ze środków  
Narodowego Funduszu  
Ochrony Środowiska  
i Gospodarki Wodnej

Projekt „Ekologia integralna encykliki Laudato Si’ w działaniu wspólnot Caritas i społeczności lokalnych” realizowany przez Caritas Polska, został dofinansowany ze środków Narodowego Funduszu Ochrony Środowiska i Gospodarki Wodnej. Za jego treść odpowiada wyłącznie Caritas Polska.