

Meeting Date:

Location: Virtual Zoom.

Group: Saint Ignatius Catholic Community – is a Catholic Church in the Jesuit tradition located at the corner of Calvert Street and Madison Avenue in Baltimore City since 1856. Our parish community consists of over 900 registered families in addition to 2,000 to 4,000 viewers who celebrate our online Mass each week. Our Parish publishes an online magazine each week, “Parish the Thought” which has over 2,800 subscribers. For over twenty-five years, St. Ignatius parishioners have supported tuition free, high quality education for hundreds of students from underserved Baltimore City communities. We provide over 1,500 meals each month to community members in need through our Loaves and Fishes Ministry. Our Justice and Peace Committee focuses on education and advocating for institutional change needed to improve the lives of all citizens of Baltimore City with our committee efforts related to Racial Justice, Economic Justice, Immigration Justice, and Environmental Justice.

Explore our website at www.st-ignatius.net to learn more.

Facilitator: Candra Healy (Chair, J&P Committee)

Delegation

- Len Heckwolf – lenheckwolf@gmail.com
- Theresa Furnari - tafurnari10@gmail.com
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- Candra Healy – candrahealy@st-ignatius.net
- Terrence Cavanagh - tcavanagh@seiumddc.org

Goal of our Meeting:

To discuss the path of our national environmental strategy and encourage a strong direction in establishing the absolute criticality of strong environmental policy to the future of our nation. To explain why the three key concerns of climate change, the need for sustainable infrastructure, and the importance of inclusivity of citizenry that have not historically been considered in major national programs be included in environmental and infrastructure programs under the Biden Administration.

Discussion Points:

Mitigation of Climate Change

The absolute need to accelerate the transition to clean energy to mitigate climate change. To limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius and avoid the worst impacts of climate change, net CO2 emissions need to be reduced to zero by 2050.

Development of Sustainable Infrastructure

We must invest in sustainable infrastructure in order to improve our quality of life, preserve our environment, and create stable jobs, These investments are vital in places that have historically been underserved and more vulnerable to natural disasters.

Importance of Communities Adversely Affected by Environmental Injustice

We must prioritize communities of people impacted by environmental injustice and pass legislation such as the H.R. 5986 Environmental Justice for All Act (co-sponsors, Congressmen Sarbanes, Raskin, MD) to address the disproportionate adverse human health and environmental effects of federal laws on Environmental Justice communities.

Asks - Bills and Programs that support Environmental Advancement

- HR219 Earth Act
- HR862: Climate Action Planning for Ports Act of 2021
- HR501: Climate Smart Ports Act:
- HR 815: Arctic Refuge Protection Act
- HR544: Stop Arctic Ocean Drilling Act
- HR848: Green Act of 2021.
- H.R.794: Climate Emergency Act of 2021
- H.R.516: Environmental Justice Mapping and Data Collection Act of 2021
- H.R.806: Clean Energy and Sustainability Accelerator Act.
- H.R.957 - Protecting Moms and Babies Against Climate Change Act
- H.R.260 - Women and Climate Change Act of 2021

Programs specifically impacting Maryland:

- Reauthorization of the EPA Chesapeake Bay Program
- Chesapeake WILD (Watershed Investments for Landscape Defense)
- Reauthorization of the National Park Services Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Water Trails Program