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Archdiocese of Cincinnati  
Catholic Social Action Office  
266 Bainbridge Street  
Dayton, OH 45402

# Holding the Earth

*Lightly*



A Call to Care for  
People & the Planet

**February 27, 2010**

University of Dayton  
Kennedy Union  
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There will be an optional free viewing and discussion of *They Killed Sister Dorothy* immediately following the conference.

The Fourth Annual Global Solidarity Conference

*"At its CORE, the environmental crisis is a moral challenge. It calls us to examine how we use and share the goods of the earth, what we pass on to future generations, and how we live in harmony with God's creation."*

*United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, Renewing the Earth: An Invitation to Reflection and Action on the Environment in light of Catholic Social Teaching*

**Keynote Speaker**

**Dr. Shaun Ferris**



*Integrating Agriculture, Environment & the Market to Serve the Poor*

Dr. Shaun Ferris, the Senior Technical Advisor for Agriculture and the Environment at Catholic Relief Services, is responsible for providing strategic and technical advice to CRS's field offices in support of a global relief and development project portfolio. This work focuses on an extensive range of projects in Africa with support to activities in Asia and Latin America. A crop physiologist, Dr. Ferris started working with CRS in 2000 and joined CRS full time in 2007. He has lived in Africa and South America for the past 18 years.

His presentation, *Integrating Agriculture, Environment & the Market to Serve the Poor*, will focus on Catholic Relief Services' work to link agriculture to emergency response, health, environment, micro-finance and markets.

**CRS**  
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES

Sponsored by:  
Catholic Social Action Office  
Catholic Relief Services Midwest Office  
Catholic Relief Services Committee of the  
Archdiocesan Catholic Social Action Commission  
University of Dayton Center for Social Concern  
Marianist Environmental Education Center

# Conference Schedule

- 8:00 Check-in, Light Breakfast Provided
- 9:00 Welcome and Opening Prayer
- 9:15 Keynote Address  
**Integrating Agriculture, Environment & the Market to Serve the Poor**  
Speaker: Dr. Shaun Ferris
- 10:30 First Session of Workshops  
(See Workshop Panel)
- 11:45 Second Session of Workshops
- 1:00 Lunch
- 2:00 Third Session of Workshops
- 3:15 Panel of Presenters
- 3:50 Closing Prayer
- 4:00 Adjourn or attend optional movie *They Killed Sister Dorothy*, and a discussion following with Sr. Joan Krimm, SNDdeN



**Free parking** is available on Saturday in any single letter lot. Lots B, C, or P are recommended.

**For more information** contact Catholic Social Action at 937.224.3026 or csadayton@catholiccincinnati.org

### Registration Payments Online:

You can make a credit card payment for your registration for the CRS Conference “Holding the Earth Lightly” by going to [www.catholiccincinnati.org/socialaction](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/socialaction). To properly credit you with the payment, please select “Event” from the contribution list, type “CRS Conference” as the “Event Name,” and enter the exact amount for your registration. Please indicate your choice of workshops and attendance at the movie in the “Event Details” box. For multiple registration payments, please note your intentions in the “Comments” box. You will be emailed a receipt for your payment.

## First Session of Workshops (Choose One)

### Just Environmental Spirituality

Sister Leanne Jablonski, Director of the Marianist Environmental Education Center, will answer the question, can we learn from nature’s rhythms and balance to act in greater care for our earth? Be refreshed through a guided reflection on nature’s beauty, scripture, saints, contemporary sages, and church social teaching. Explore environmental ethics and spirituality and sustainable ways to simplify. Receive resources for prayer, spiritual growth and group educational programs.

### Co-creating a Sustainable Future

Sister Paula Gonzalez S.C., a lecturer, facilitator and consultant in the area of ecospirituality, notes the Vatican Council called us to ‘read the signs of the times.’ Current ecological and social challenges on our planet are sobering. What might happen if we humans recognize these realities as a call to energizing creativity and respond by accepting our role as co-creators of a future of harmony and balance? It can be exciting!

### Everyday Environmental Choices

Kelly Bohrer and Mary Niebler, both from UD’s Center for Social Concern, will explore the easy, everyday changes you can make to lighten your environmental footprint while still living a happy and healthy life.

## Second Session of Workshops (Choose One)

### The Church’s Growing Environmental Tradition

Tony Stieritz, the director of the Archdiocesan Catholic Social Action Office, will discuss the growing environmental tradition of the Church as proclaimed by our recent popes and the bishops, especially Pope Benedict XVI’s encyclical Caritas in Veritate and his messages regarding climate change.

### Human Doings by Human Beings

Ralph Dull, a lifetime farmer, world traveler, author of *Nonviolence is Not for Wimps*, a conscientious objector to war, and a Co-Founder of the Dayton International Peace Museum, will discuss the energy initiatives taking place at his family farm in Brookville, Ohio. Mr. Dull established the Green Energy Information Center on his farm.

## Called to be Stewards of Creation: Forming a Green Team in Your Congregation

Marilyn Baumer, Louise Snyder and David Sullivan, parishioners of St. Francis of Assisi, will discuss the Catholic call to environmental stewardship and the steps involved in beginning a green team ministry. All members of the parish’s Precious Planet Ministry, they will share practical ideas from their own experience and invite participants to do the same. Participants will be able to obtain resources to use in their own parish and discuss steps to implement ideas in a parish setting.

## Third Session of Workshops (Choose One)

### Changing Our Lives in Response to Global Climate Change

Sister Leanne Jablonski, Director of the Marianist Environmental Education Center, will teach us about the impacts of climate change from our region to the globe, and how inequities are predicted to increase. You will discover the best choices for lightening your carbon footprint through programs of [www.catholicsandclimatechange.org](http://www.catholicsandclimatechange.org) and Interfaith Power and Light [www.ohipl.org](http://www.ohipl.org). Receive resources for individual, home, workplace and congregation education, prayer and action.

### Addressing the Food, Fuel and Financial Crisis in Africa

Shaun Ferris, the Senior Technical Advisor for Agriculture and the Environment at Catholic Relief Services, will offer views from the field on the food, fuel and financial crisis experienced in Africa.

### Urban Pollution

Mary Johnson and Willa Bronston, members of St. Benedict Parish, Dayton, Ohio, and Laura Rench will look at their successful opposition to a plan to reprocess hazardous military materials in their Jefferson Township neighborhood. Their efforts drew national attention.

“The environment is God’s gift to everyone, and in our use of it we have a responsibility towards the poor, towards future generations and towards humanity as a whole.” – Caritas in Veritate (48)

# Registration

Cost of the conference is \$30 (\$10 for students). Fee includes lunch. Scholarships available. Registration and payment are due by February 22, 2010.

Register online at [www.catholiccincinnati.org/socialaction](http://www.catholiccincinnati.org/socialaction) and click on the link to *Holding the Earth Lightly*.

Payment can be mailed with registration. Must pre-pay by February 22.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Parish/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Please check one workshop for each session. Online make your choice for the workshops and video in the “Event Details” box.

### First Session of Workshops

- Just Environmental Spirituality  
 Co-creating a Sustainable Future  
 Everyday Environmental Choices

### Second Session of Workshops

- The Church’s Growing Environmental Tradition  
 Human Doings by Human Beings  
 Called to be Stewards of Creation: Forming a Green Team in Your Congregation

### Third Session of Workshops

- Changing Our Lives in Response to Global Climate Change  
 Addressing the Food, Fuel and Financial Crisis in Africa  
 Urban Pollution

### Would you like to attend an optional free viewing and discussion of *They Killed Sister Dorothy*?

Yes  No

Please make checks payable to Catholic Social Action  
Mail registration to:  
Catholic Social Action  
266 Bainbridge St.  
Dayton, Ohio 45402

Conference limited to the first 200 people.

Cancellation Policy:  
Registration payments will be refunded by check within 30 days of the event cancellation.