This panel, with experts across several different disciplines, will discuss how Pope Francis’ encyclical can re-frame the issue of climate change for Catholics and non-Catholics.

John Grim, Ph.D., Moderator and Mary Evelyn Tucker, Ph.D., Panelist
Co-Directors of the Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale, together organized a series of ten conferences at Harvard on World Religions and Ecology and edited the ten volume series from the conferences distributed by Harvard University Press. They now teach in the joint degree program in religion and ecology at Yale University.

Teresa Berger, Ph.D., Panelist
Professor Berger is Professor of Liturgical Studies and Thomas E. Golden, Jr. Professor of Catholic Theology at Yale Divinity School and the Yale Institute of Sacred Music. Professor Berger holds doctorates in both liturgical studies and in constructive theology.

Joanna Dafoe, Yale Law School 2017, Panelist
Joanna is a J.D. candidate at Yale Law School and recent graduate from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Her research seeks to identify opportunities for climate change policy innovation internationally as well as within the U.S. and Canada.

Joshua Ratner, Associate Rabbi Slifka Center, Respondent
Rabbi Joshua Ratner's primary responsibilities at the Joseph Slifka Center for Jewish Life at Yale include sharing words of Torah through formal and informal education across campus, mentoring social justice advocates, and serving as a liaison to the graduate and professional schools.

Omer Bajwa, Coordinator of Muslim Life Yale Chaplain’s Office, Respondent
Omer Bajwa is the “Coordinator of Muslim Life” in the Chaplain’s Office at Yale. He earned his Graduate Certificate in Islamic Chaplaincy from Hartford Seminary, and he has been engaged in religious service, social activism, and educational outreach since 2000.