



Catholic Impact Investing Pledge



“*I urgently appeal, then, for a new dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. We need a conversation which includes everyone, since the environmental challenge we are undergoing, and its human roots, concern and affect us all.*”

— Pope Francis, *Laudato Si*

The Catholic Impact Investing Collaborative (aka CIIC - pronounced “seek”) was established in November 2014 as an informal “neutral space” for people to come together, share a meal and stories, and build relationships based on their spiritual as well as financial commitment to Impact Investing. Having started in the U.S. Midwest, the group soon expanded to other areas in the USA, and is increasingly operating globally.

CIIC is now looking to broaden its relationships and connections, spreading a message of the power and potential of Impact Investment to further the mission and values of Catholic investors. Part of this effort is spreading awareness and support for the many different Catholic institutions and individual investors that are in various stages of their own impact investment journey. Along those lines, we have created a pledge to showcase the growing momentum among Catholic investors who are integrating Impact Investment into their portfolios.

We are reaching out today to invite you to sign the Catholic Impact Investing Pledge.

Catholic Impact Investing Pledge

“
The Church encourages those in power to be truly at the service of the common good of their peoples. She urges financial leaders to take account of ethics and solidarity. And why should they not turn to God to draw inspiration from his designs?
 ”

– Pope Francis, May 16, 2013

What is the Catholic Impact Investing Pledge?

This Pledge is an effort to galvanize the Catholic investment community to commit to taking meaningful and accountable steps to incorporate impact investment into their portfolio in alignment with Catholic Social Teachings and the urgency for action around environmental and social justice issues.

This Pledge is comprised of two sections, principles and commitments, which are featured on the next page. The **Pledge Principles** outline why CIIC believes impact investment is an important element of Catholic investor’s portfolio. The **Pledge Commitments** are the explicit next-steps that any signatory is agreeing to pursue.

Pledge Partners

Our community of pledge partners includes a core group of pioneering Catholic institutions who have led the way on impact investing. This group has committed not only to maintaining their focus on internal impact investment programs but is also interested in helping to grow the broader ecosystem of Catholic impact investing.



Pledge Principles

We believe that as Catholic individuals and institutions we have a moral obligation to work toward a more just society.

We believe that we must pursue that aim with urgency, given the increasing needs of the poor and vulnerable and the continuing degradation of our common home. This requires a rethinking of how we use the resources God has given us.

We believe that in order to increase our positive impacts in the world, our investments must move beyond negative screening and seek out opportunities across asset classes that provide financial returns while simultaneously creating measurable, positive social and environmental outcomes in service of people and planet.

Pledge Commitments

As faithful Catholics, we have an obligation to work on behalf of the poor and vulnerable, to promote human dignity, economic justice, and environmental stewardship. As such we believe that we must use all of the resources God has given us to pursue a more just and equitable world, both today and for future generations. We believe that impact investments can play a meaningful role in pursuing our goals.

We therefore commit to the following:

- We will **move beyond negative screening** and seek out opportunities across asset classes that provide financial returns while **creating measurable, positive social and environmental outcomes in service of people and planet.**
- We will establish meaningful allocation targets to **ensure impact investments are incorporated into our investment portfolios.**
- We will **promote awareness of impact investing among our fellow Catholics.**
- We will work with one another and relevant partners to **improve the effectiveness of impact investing.**
- We will **share our progress making impact investments**, and we will **measure and communicate the impacts** that are created.

Next-Steps

To become a signatory of the pledge, please sign and scan a copy of this page and return it to CIIC at info@catholicimpact.org. You can also simply send an email indicating that you would like to be added as a signatory.

After signing, your name (if representing a family office/private investor) or the name of the institution you are representing may be featured on the CIIC website as a signatory. You can also choose to remain anonymous. Please feel free to share your logo if you would like to be featured as a Pledge Partner.

We would also be grateful for your willingness to act as a resource for any future investors considering signing on to CIIC pledge. Please let us know if you are open to this!

Finally, if you wish to learn more about the Pledge, please reach out to the individual that contacted you about this Pledge or contact any of the members of CIIC's Steering Committee. To learn more about the Catholic Impact Investment Collaborative more broadly, please visit our website www.catholicimpact.org or reach out to us directly at info@catholicimpact.org.

Add your name below & take the pledge.

Organization: _____

Contact Name: _____

E-mail: _____

By signing this pledge, I/We agree to the above principles & commitments and to have our name and logo shared publicly as a signatory (unless otherwise noted).

X _____