



## BIO PAGE

### CATHOLIC CONVERSATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE APRIL 14, 2007, COLUMBUS, OHIO ST. CHARLES HIGH SCHOOL CAVELLO CENTER CONTACT: JIM TOBIN 614-224-7147



#### **His Excellency, The Most Reverend Celestino Migliore**

*Titular Archbishop of Canosa, Apostolic Nuncio  
Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations*

<http://www.holyseemission.org/migliore.html>

A native of Cuneo, in the Piedmont region of Italy, His Excellency Archbishop Celestino Migliore was born in Italy in 1952. He was ordained a priest on 25 June 1977.

Archbishop Migliore holds a master's degree in theology from the Center of Theological Studies in Fossano, Italy and a Doctorate in Canon Law from the Pontifical Lateran University. In 1980 he joined the Holy See's diplomatic service.

As a Vatican diplomat, he served in Angola, the United States of America, Egypt, Poland, and as the Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France. From December 1995 to October 2002, he served as Under-Secretary of the Section for Relations with States of the Secretariat of State, at the Vatican where he was charged with fostering relations with several Asian countries that do not yet have formal diplomatic relations with the Holy See.

In the summer of 2001, Archbishop Migliore led the Holy See's Delegation to the United Nations Conference on Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in New York. He also represented the Holy See on issues related to the World Trade Organization, the Economic Commission for Europe, the European Union, and the Middle East.

In October 2002, Pope John Paul II nominated Archbishop Celestino Migliore as Apostolic Nuncio and Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, in New York and serves as the fourth Permanent Observer.

#### **Sr. Leanne Jablonski, FMI, PhD**

Marianist Sister, Leanne Jablonski, is an ecologist, educator and pastoral minister. She directs the Marianist Environmental Education Center (MEEC) at Mount Saint John in Dayton, Ohio. With its aim of "restoring communities of land and people", MEEC stewards the 100-acre Mount St. John Nature Preserve and is committed to sharing and interpreting the gift of the land with others. MEEC advocates environmental justice as integral to sustainable living and achieves its mission through land restoration, ecological research, service learning, and educational programs.

Dr. Jablonski, a native of Winnipeg, Canada has degrees in Botany, Plant Physiology, and Religious Studies (pastoral ministry) focusing on issues of religion and science and ministering to the whole person of the scientist. She earned a PhD from McGill University in Montreal in Plant Physiological Ecology & Global Climate Change. Her post-doctoral work at Ohio State University included a published meta-analysis and major review of the past twenty years of studies on the impacts of elevated CO<sub>2</sub> on crop and native plant seeds.

Leanne has taught courses and workshops in Ecology, Spirituality, Justice, Environmental Ethics and environmental education at the University of Dayton, Chaminade University in Honolulu and St. Mary of the Woods Earth Literacy Program in Terre Haute, IN. She is currently developing a curriculum on climate impacts in the Great Lakes region for high school and college students.

Among her many accomplishments, Leanne leads the Ecological Society of America (ESA) environmental justice working group and co-authored a Forum in the ESA journal, *Frontiers in Ecology and Environment* (April 2003) titled "The challenge of environmental justice" which highlights the role of the faith community. In Ohio, Sr. Leanne coordinates the Interfaith Climate and Energy Campaign and Earth Stewardship and Environmental Justice Task Force of the Ohio Council of Churches and authored the *Ohio Sustainable Energy Charter* (January 2006).

### **Mr. John L. Stowell**

John L. Stowell is Vice President of Environmental, Health & Safety Policy at Duke Energy Corporation – a diversified energy company based in Charlotte, NC. Among its many businesses, Duke Energy has regulated electric operations in five states in the South and Midwest and owns more than 17,500 miles of natural gas transmission pipeline in North America.

John has been with Duke or its predecessor companies since 1986, serving Public Service Indiana as its Washington representative until 1994 when he moved to Cincinnati to head up Cinergy's Federal and State Government Affairs Department.

In 2002, he launched Cinergy's sustainability program and, in 2003, was promoted to lead the company's environmental efforts in a newly created department that included federal government affairs. In late 2004, John's department published Cinergy's Air Emissions Report to Stakeholders, which discusses potential impacts of greenhouse gas regulation on the company.

He assumed his current position in April 2006 upon completion of the merger between Cinergy and Duke Energy.

John, a graduate of Michigan State University, is a former newspaper reporter and served for four years as press and legislative assistant to an Indiana member of Congress. In addition to his other responsibilities at Duke, he is co-chairman of the company's political action committee.

### **Mr. Jeff Eschmeyer**

Jeff Eschmeyer serves as the Government Relations Director for the Ohio Farmers Union and is based in Columbus, Ohio. Ohio Farmers Union is a general farm organization working to strengthen family farms and rural communities in all regions of Ohio.

Before joining Ohio Farmers Union, he served as a policy aide to U.S. Senator Mark Dayton in Washington, DC with a focus on agriculture, energy, and nutrition. He received his B.A. in History and Political Science from Northwestern University in Chicago, Illinois and is originally from New Knoxville, Ohio.

### **Mr. Robert W. Varley (Bob)**

Bob Varley is Managing Director of State & Local Affairs for Dominion's Midwest division.

Bob joined the former East Ohio Gas Company now known as Dominion East Ohio in September 1977, as an educational representative. He has since held a variety of public affairs positions within the company. He currently oversees Dominion's governmental and community activities, including municipal and county government relations in Dominion's Midwest region which includes the states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Wisconsin.

Bob earned a bachelor's degree in education from Youngstown State University. He presently is active in various community organizations, including United Way Services, Diversity Center, Look Up to Cleveland, and the Cuyahoga County Library Foundation. During his career, he has served on more than 25 volunteer boards and commissions, many of which were leadership positions on executive committees.

Bob and his wife, Lorene, have two sons, Patrick and Brendan, and live in Solon, Ohio. Bob enjoys playing golf and gardening in his spare time.

### **Sr. Rita Wienken, OSF**

Sr. Rita Wienken grew up on a small family farm in northwest Ohio. From a small child she loved to be outside in the garden working with her mom. Early on she learned the importance of what it took to raise a family of eight on a small farm. Her love for growing things stayed with her as she pursued her dream of becoming a Sister of St. Francis.

Her ministry endeavors included teaching in the elementary classroom and working in the maintenance department at her congregational motherhouse. In December of 1993, Sr. Rita received her Master's Degree in Pastoral Ministry with an emphasis on Caring for the Earth.

In 1994 she became Director of the Franciscan Earth Literacy Center, an environmental education center. The Franciscan Earth Literacy Center is a ministry sponsored by the Sisters of St. Francis in Tiffin, Ohio. In 2005, Sr. Rita founded Seeds of Hope Farm. Seeds of Hope Farm is a small diversified, chemical-free farm that is part of the mission of the Franciscan Earth Literacy Center.

### **Dr. Lawrence E. Frisch, M.D. M.P.H.**

Dr. Lawrence Frisch is Medical Director and Epidemiologist for the Mahoning County District Board of Health as well as Associate Professor of Community Health Sciences, Northeast Ohio Universities College of Medicine.

A Harvard-trained medical doctor, Dr. Frisch has pursued post-doctoral studies in internal medicine, genetics and neurodevelopment disorders. He has taught pediatrics, preventative medicine, and family and community medicine in Hawaii, Kansas as well as Northeast Ohio. He has medical licenses here in Ohio and in Alaska where he practiced family medicine for six years. He has been medical director or chief of staff in Hawaii, Illinois, California, Kansas and here in Ohio.

Dr. Frisch has presented on technological advancements in the field of clinical medicine, public health concerns in the United States and around the world and has published three dozen articles on a variety of health care topics.

### **Mr. Dave Rinebolt**

Dave Rinebolt became Executive Director of Ohio Partners for Affordable Energy (OPAE) in April 1996. OPAE is a collection of over sixty nonprofits that provide bill payment assistance and weatherization services to low-income households. He represents OPAE before the Public Utilities Commission, the General Assembly and Congress, working to promote affordable energy policies. Mr. Rinebolt has 25 years experience working in energy, natural resources, and social service policy. He has worked for federal departments, twelve governors, renewable energy trade associations, and on Capitol Hill. His work has involved major legislative initiatives including the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, the Energy Policy Act of 1992. Mr. Rinebolt is also the author of several papers on biomass energy and climate change. He serves as president of two energy purchasing cooperatives.