**ECO-ACTION FOR THE WEEK**

December 11, 2020 – Actions for Our Own Dear Planet



**Actions to reduce damage from fossil fuels:**

1. Search for **“offset carbon emissions”** and choose a site. Use their tools to calculate the amount of CO2 you have added to the atmosphere (e.g., approximate miles driven, type of food eaten, electricity used, etc.). Contribute to projects they sponsor that compensate for your carbon footprint. Note: This is not a substitute for reducing carbon emissions. It simply helps to balance the greenhouse gases we cannot avoid contributing.
2. If you have stocks in fossil fuels, **divest from fossil fuel stocks and invest in companies that value sustainability, social justice and the promotion of the common good.** Even Pope Francis advocates divesting to reduce global warming. Over 200 Catholic groups have pledged (it takes time and planning) to divest, including the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation Commission of the International Union of Superiors General.
3. **Contact your bank officials** and ask them not to invest in fossil fuel exploration, production, or pipe lines. Public pressure works! As a result of these requests, every major American bank has stated that they will not finance fossil fuel exploration in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge! (This exploration would trample Indigenous rights, threaten vulnerable wildlife, damage ecosystems, and worsen the climate crisis.)