Loretto & BVM at the UN • Contact: Loretto UN Rep Beth Blissman at bblissman@lorettocommunity.org



About the

2023 Parliament of the World's Religions



The largest Interfaith gathering in the world, the Parliament of the World's Religions (PoWR, see <u>https://parliamentofreligions.org/</u>) will be happening this coming week (14-18 Aug) in Chicago, IL, USA. This year's theme is: "A Call to Conscience: Defending Freedom & Human Rights," and you can <u>watch this informational video</u> to learn more.

These convenings attract participants from more than 200 diverse religious, indigenous, and secular beliefs and more than 80 nations. Participants enjoy access to all the plenary sessions, hundreds of breakout sessions, art & cultural exhibits, performances, a film festival, and countless opportunities to connect with individuals and organizations committed to justice, peace, and sustainability.

And Loretto at the UN will be there! I'll be presenting on panels during two parallel sessions:

An Evaluation of Faith-based Advocacy on Climate Change Wednesday, 16 Aug 2023, 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM Location: Green Tent **Interfaith Environmental & Gender Justice for the Human Right to a Healthy Environment** Friday, 18 Aug 2023, 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM Location: Hall E-Room 6

I'll also be moderating another parallel session, early TH morning: Sacred Water in a Climate Changed Era Thursday, 17 Aug 2023, 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM Location: Hall E-Room 1

Even though I've already attended three Parliament gatherings (two in-person and one virtual), I'm most excited to experience PoWR in Chicago, the place where it first happened 130 years ago!

You can <u>click on this link to learn more</u> about the history of the Parliament, and be sure to follow us on social media (@LorettoattheUN) and watch the Midweek Mission Message for live reports!



