In the spirit of Pope Francis’s encyclical letter *Laudato Si* and the Religious Formation Conference’s Congress theme of “Grace in the Now: The Gospel of Encounter,” this Pre-Congress Workshop is dedicated to exploring the ways in which we are called as members of the human family to break down the metaphorical borders we have established between us and the rest of the community of creation, borders which have contributed to persistent environmental degradation and the perpetuation of abuses within the human family. Today we are called to encounter the rest of the family of creation of which we are one part. This workshop is intended to help participants examine the theological foundations for better heeding the Christian community’s call to hear both “the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor” and to offer insight into the lifelong formation of religious committed to justice, peace, and the integrity of creation.

**Pre-Congress Workshop**  
**November 16, 2017**

**The Grace of Encountering the Family of Creation:**  
*Lifelong Formation in the Age of Laudato Si*

**Presenter:** Daniel P. Horan, OFM, is a Franciscan Friar of Holy Name Province (NY), assistant professor of systematic theology at the Catholic Theological Union in Chicago, and the author of several books and many journal articles, both scholarly and popular.

Father Horan received his Ph.D. in theology from Boston College, his M.Div. and M.A. from the Washington Theological Union.
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