

Florida Catholic Advocacy Network



Helping to Form Consciences for Faithful Citizenship

The Florida Catholic Advocacy Network is a statewide, online community established by the bishops of Florida that exists to connect, educate, and mobilize Catholics across Florida's seven dioceses on public policy issues pertaining to life, dignity, and the common good.

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A Call to Participate

“A good Catholic meddles in politics, offering the best of himself, so that those who govern can govern.”

-Pope Francis (Morning Meditation, Sept. 16, 2013)

An Opportunity to Connect

The Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops provides opportunities for Catholics in Florida to carry out their responsibility to participate in political life.



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Why Should Catholics participate?

Pope Francis reminds us, “Each son and daughter of a given country has a mission, a personal and social responsibility.” As Catholics we are called to participate in public life and to apply Gospel values to our political activities as a joyful public witness to the Church’s social teachings.

FLCAN provides the opportunity to speak on behalf of the poor, the disabled, the sick or dying, the unborn, the elderly, families and children, immigrants, the imprisoned, and others in need. By raising our voices together, we strengthen the presence of the Catholic faithful in the public square.



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Parish Instructions

Step 1: Request Postcards from the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops

- Please contact the FCCB Outreach Coordinator at **(850) 205-6819** to request postcards.
- Please provide the number of postcards need to ensure an adequate supply for all people attending the Saturday Vigil and all Sunday Masses. Postcards will be mailed out to you **within 10 days of request**, at no cost to the parish.

Step 2: Place Bulletin Announcement in the Parish Bulletin

- **The following bulletin announcement should be placed in the parish bulletin the weekend prior to the appeal to connect.**

Catholic social teaching invites us to love and pursue justice for our neighbors; to protect the sacredness and uphold the dignity of human life at every stage of development; to seek peace and promote the common good. You will have the opportunity to connect with the Florida bishops' advocacy network and become a **joyful advocate for life, dignity, and the common good**. Florida Catholic Advocacy Network (FLCAN) postcards will be available in the pews for you to complete. Visit us today at www.flaccb.org. Thank you for your participation!

Step 3: An Appeal to Connect Parishioners with the Florida Catholic Advocacy Network

- An appeal to connect with the **Florida Catholic Advocacy Network (FLCAN)** will be made by either the pastor/priest, the FCCB parish ambassador, or the FCCB outreach coordinator, prior to Mass or before the closing prayer.
- **Postcards (as well as pencils or pens) are to be available in the pews** for parishioners who wish to connect with the bishops' advocacy network.
- **Please give your parishioners some time to complete their postcards while the pulpit announcement is being made. Postcards are to be completed during the pulpit announcement and collected immediately following the pulpit announcement. Please collect all completed postcards using the collection baskets.**

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The Pulpit Announcement

Please take some time now to complete a green postcard found in your pew. All completed postcards will be collected immediately following the announcement.

The Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops provides opportunities for Catholics in Florida to carry out their responsibility to participate in political life. Today you have the opportunity to connect with the Florida bishops' advocacy network.

The Florida Catholic Advocacy Network (FLCAN) is an online community that exists to **connect, educate, and mobilize** Catholics across Florida's seven dioceses on public policy issues of concern to the Catholic Church in Florida. As Pope Francis reminds us, *"Each son and daughter of a given country has a mission, a personal and social responsibility."* Thus, we are called to participate in public life and to apply Gospel values to our political activities as joyful advocates for **life, dignity, and the common good**.

By connecting with the Florida Catholic Advocacy Network (FLCAN) today, you will receive via email:

- action alerts on key legislation at both the state and federal level;
- legislative reports and summaries;
- effective messaging to use in communications with your policymakers;
- bishops' statements and position papers;
- voter education materials;
- bishops' calls to prayer; and
- information about statewide events and activities.

Thank you for your participation and cooperation! Please take a few minutes now to complete your green postcard. All completed green postcards will be collected within a few minutes and returned to the FCCB.

Disclaimer: The Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops will not share your contact information with any other individuals, groups or organizations.

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Step 4: Return Completed Postcards to the FCCB

- *All completed green postcards are to be returned to the FCCB within 10 days of collection.*

Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops
Attn. Alejandro Capote
201 W. Park Avenue
Tallahassee, Florida 32301

- Reimbursement for return postage is available from the Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops upon request.

