

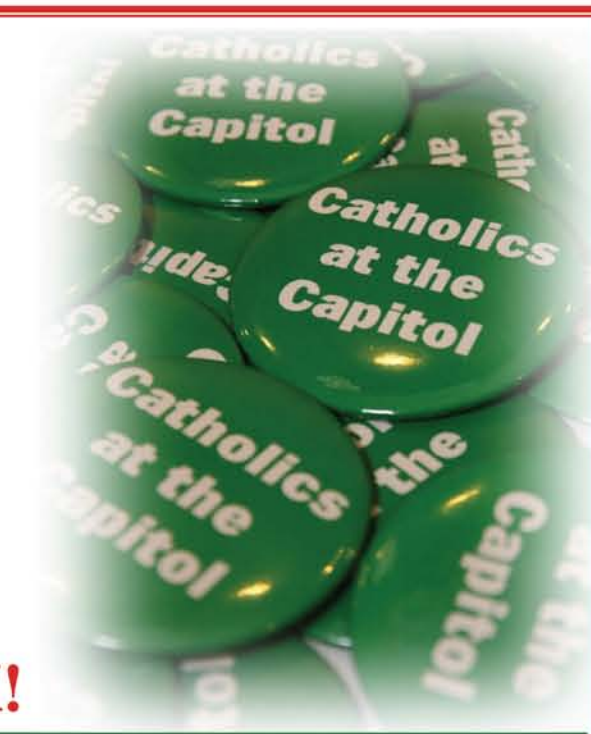
Tuesday, March 13, 2012 is a significant day for Catholics in New York State. It's the day you can join the Bishops of New York State and over 1,000 Catholics from throughout the state to speak with your legislators in Albany. We urge you to accept this invitation to gather with them in raising your voice for public policies that support the dignity and worth of each person.

Register today at:  
[www.nyscatholic.org](http://www.nyscatholic.org)

Just click on Public Policy Day 2012 at the top of the home page. You will find directions for registering to attend the Public Policy Day. After you register, a representative from Catholic Charities in Ogdensburg will contact you for additional details and information.

You must be registered to attend

*The Official Public Policy Voice of the Catholic Church in the Empire State*  
Come to the New York State Catholic Conference's  
**2012 PUBLIC POLICY DAY**  
TUESDAY, MARCH 13 at the STATE CAPITAL in ALBANY



**TAKE ACTION**

**About Us**

The New York State Catholic Conference represents the Bishops of New York State in matters of Public Policy. The role of the Conference is to seek justice, fairness and charity for all, with a particular emphasis on the poor and vulnerable.

Our positions transcend political platforms or ideologies. The Conference is neither Democrat or Republican, liberal or conservative. Our positions are based on the principles of Catholic social teaching and recognition of the innate dignity of every human person made in the image and likeness of God.

The Conference advocates for the agenda of the Bishops as it relates to state government. We seek to work in partnership with the state to fashion public policies that respect the human person from conception until natural death. Our positions and statements are made with malice toward none and charity toward all.

**Mission Statement**

The mission of the New York State Catholic Conference is to identify, formulate and implement the public policy objectives of the Catholic Bishops of New York State. As one body, the Conference provides a unified voice and the means for joint action through which the eight Catholic dioceses in the 63-county state can impact the development of public policies in the areas of health, education, welfare, human and civil rights.

The Conference seeks to fulfill the vision of the Vatican Council II, which called on the Church to be more involved in the world, and the call of Pope John Paul II in Centesimus Annus for Catholics to become personally involved in and committed to transforming the public policy process to better serve the needy and vulnerable.

The primary objective of the Conference is to reaffirm the sacredness of human life, demonstrating that "the human person is central, the clearest reflection of God among us" (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops). Thus the policies pursued by the Conference seek to enhance human dignity, foster the common good, and provide for the fulfillment of individual potential from conception to natural death.

With the Gospels and the social teachings of the Church as its foundation, the New York State Catholic Conference offers a specifically Catholic contribution to state and federal public policy debates. It achieves this by:

- working with the three branches of government to fashion laws, regulations and policies which respect human life, meet human needs, and serve the common good;
- speaking officially for the Church before government bodies and private organizations;
- providing a forum for Church personnel to meet, exchange information, deliberate and recommend policies or actions to the Bishops ;
- studying all aspects of pressing social and moral questions and fostering public understanding of the Church's teachings;
- highlighting the moral dimensions of critical public issues;
- encouraging Catholic citizens to communicate with their elected representatives regarding the Church's concerns;
- working in cooperation with other faith groups and advocacy organizations to ensure that the needs of all New Yorkers are met.

**THIS IS IMPORTANT... You want to know about this!**

You are invited to join

**New York State Catholic Conference Public Policy Network**

Keep informed of the current issues that are important to the Church. There is no cost for membership.

You will receive Legislative Alerts. With just a click you can make your voice heard in Albany.

It is easy to join by visiting the New York State Catholic Conference website: [www.nyscatholic.org](http://www.nyscatholic.org)

**Put Your Catholic Faith Into Action!**

- Demonstrate the strength and unity of the Catholic voice to state lawmakers.
- Learn about and advocate on critical social issues impacting our state.
- Worship at Mass with the State's Catholic Bishop's.
- Meet with Legislators, attend Senate and Assembly Committee meetings, watch your lawmakers in action.

**Issues in brief...**

**Radical Abortion Bill:**

Oppose Abortion and Support Pregnant Women.

**Preserving Catholic Schools:**

Accessibility to Catholic schools and equity for all school children.

**Protect the Poor:**

Support emergency food programs, affordable housing and increased employment opportunities for low-income families and individuals.

**Community Reintegration:**

Support programs that prepare and assist incarcerated individuals to successfully return to the community.

**Assistance for Immigrants:**

Support English as a Second Language instruction, direct legal services and assistance to recent immigrants on the path toward citizenship.

**Other Issues include:**

- Religious Liberty • Respect Life
- Marriage and Family Life • Human Services
- Criminal Justice • Health Care

**JOIN THE NETWORK!**

**LOVE IMPLIES JUSTICE  
Catholics at the Capital**



You are invited to join your voice with those of the Bishops of New York State and over 1,000 Catholics in Albany. Your participation is needed to demonstrate the strength of Catholic convictions to your state lawmakers. The day will include delegations to speak with legislators, workshops on the issues, a special prayer gathering with the Knights of Columbus, and a Rosary Procession from the Convention Center to the Cathedral for Mass. You can find information about the 2012 Legislative Agenda, review the YouTube summary and register at [www.nyscatholic.org](http://www.nyscatholic.org)

**Schedule of Events**

**8:30 a.m. Registration Opens (Outside Convention Center)**

New York State Catholic Conference staff will be at registration tables to check you in, provide materials and answer questions.

**9:00 a.m. Legislative Meetings Begin (Legislative Office Building and State Capitol)**

Some participants will attend pre-scheduled meetings with elected representatives throughout the day.

**10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. Workshop: Training on the Issues**

Meeting Room 6, Empire State Plaza

**11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Knights of Columbus Rosary/Prayer Rally (Convention Center)**

Bishops will welcome participants and the New York State Council of the K of C, who will be praying the Rosary for all those advocating with lawmakers. Come join them!

**11:30 a.m. Lunch Available**

**1:00 p.m. Rosary Procession**

From the Convention Center to the Cathedral led by the Knights of Columbus

**1:30 p.m. Mass (Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Madison Ave)**

**3:00 p.m. Buses Depart Madison Avenue**