

Dear Monsignor/Father,

I write today to provide you with updates and will continue to share with you information as needed.

Important Update on Process for Applying for Grants

Archdiocese parishes and schools are encouraged to consider participation in applicable grant programs. However, some grants may require a parish/school to make assurances or otherwise impose certain obligations or restrictions that necessitate legal review. Therefore, parishes/schools interested in pursuing a private or government (federal, state, or local) grant should **first** contact the Archdiocese.

Schools should contact Brian Radziwill (<u>radziwillb@adw.org</u>) in the Catholic Schools Office.

<u>Parishes</u> should contact the Office of General Counsel (<u>legaladmin@adw.org</u>). Please provide as much information about the grant program as possible (i.e. program description, application materials, website, grant assurances or agreements). Parishes/schools will then be provided with guidance on whether it is appropriate to apply for the grant. This requirement is not to discourage the pursuit of grant funding, but to ensure greater equity of funding opportunities and make sure parishes/schools are not participating in programs with significant risk to operations in the future.

Grants in Montgomery County

Montgomery County has created two new grant opportunities for parishes and schools, one which funds security initiatives and another to support clean water projects. Details on these opportunities may be found below.



New Grants for Montgomery County Parishes and Schools Attachment

Sept 2022.pdf

Public Policy News

USCCB has issued an action alert encouraging people to contact the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services (HHS) to oppose proposed harmful regulations that would use law meant to protect women's equality to enshrine abortion and sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI) ideology in healthcare and job-provided insurance by, among other things, requiring Catholic healthcare facilities and workers to perform gender transition procedures and abortion, effectively requiring health plans to cover abortion, contraception, and gender transition, and overriding conscience protections. Please advise members of your parish community of this development and that they can submit their comments on these HHS proposed regulations at: www.votervoice.net/USCCB/Campaigns/97764/Respond.

While we do not believe these regulations will directly impact Archdiocesan health plans, the proposed rules present serious challenges for the lay faithful and the common good. To learn more about these and related matters and what parishioners can do, please see the USCCB website "Do No Harm" at www.usccb.org/do-no-harm.

For the latest public policy updates, please contact Andy Rivas at rivasa@adw.org Mark Rothe at rothem@adw.org. Also, follow the D.C. Catholic Conference public policy team on Facebook, www.facebook.com/DCCathCon, and Twitter, www.twitter.com/DCCathCon.

Remind the Faithful of Information on the Website

The archdiocesan websites, adw.org and adw.org/es, are updated regularly with current information for you to share with your community. Please see adw.org/coronavirus for information related to Covid-19. Daily news and information about our parishes, schools, and ministries are also available at cathstan.org and elpreg.org for the Catholic Standard and the Spanish-language El Pregonero newspapers.

As always, should you have questions or need assistance from my office, please know that you can email me at FarrellT@adw.org or call my office line at 301-853-4507 or my cell at 202-531-4550.

With gratitude for your priestly ministry, I am Sincerely in Christ,

Terence J. Farrell

Chancellor and Executive Secretary of the Curia

