



# Moderator of the Curia

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## The Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Washington

Dear Brother Priests,

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

### **Confirmation Request Form**

It is that time of year again to complete the Confirmation Request for 2023-2024. ***You are requested to complete the forms electronically. No additional letter is required.***

Please complete the Confirmation Request Form [HERE](#) for your parish by Tuesday, May 2, 2023.

For scheduling purposes and in an effort to accommodate every parish, it is very important that your request is received no later than Tuesday, May 2, 2023.

Please note there will be an opportunity for your parish to participate in a Regional Confirmation at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception. His Eminence Wilton Cardinal Gregory will confirm these candidates on Saturday, June 1, 2024, at 2:00 p.m.

### **Maryland Catholic Conference Update**

The Maryland Catholic Conference (MCC) is hosting a **Prayer Vigil for Life and Lawmakers at St. Mary Church in Annapolis tomorrow, March 9, 2023, 7:00 p.m., with the Maryland bishops – Cardinal Gregory, Archbishop Lori, and Bishop Koenig.** For more information, please go to: [www.mdcatholic.org/parish-resources/special-initiatives/vigilforlife](http://www.mdcatholic.org/parish-resources/special-initiatives/vigilforlife).

This event is being held to advance the ongoing effort to encourage people to raise their voices and make their concerns known to the lawmakers about bills to legalize physician-assisted

suicide and to amend the state constitution to create a fundamental right of abortion access throughout pregnancy. In particular, MCC has produced Action Alert pages that allow people to submit template letters to lawmakers (which they can revise) by simply inputting their name and address.

Should you choose to, you may include the below samples as bulletin, webpage, and social media announcements for your parish community:

#### *STOP PHYSICIAN-ASSISTED SUICIDE IN MARYLAND*

Pope Francis has spoken about the "throwaway culture." A bill in the Maryland legislature would authorize health professionals to dispense lethal drugs to vulnerable patients. Please go here to tell lawmakers that you are against legalizing physician-assisted suicide in Maryland: <https://p2a.co/Ysg0X9t>.

#### *"NO" ON THE EXTREME AND DANGEROUS ABORTION AMENDMENT*

Some lawmakers want to amend the Maryland Constitution to create a fundamental right to take the lives of prenatal babies through all nine months of pregnancy, including stages when premature babies are now routinely born and thrive. Polls show that even people who call themselves pro-choice overwhelmingly say this goes too far. The measure would also likely restrict public health and safety regulations of abortion facilities, but do nothing to give women real choices without having to sacrifice their children in order to stay in school and/or keep their careers.

What defines us as a people is how we respond to the urgent issues of our day. Marylanders are urged to tell lawmakers NO to this extreme bill which is out of touch with simple human decency and dignity by going to: <https://p2a.co/SB5M71v>.

Thank you for sharing the above information with your Maryland parish staff, volunteers, and parishioners. To learn more about other measures to support families, promote equity in education and full participation of persons with disabilities in society, and more, and how your parish community can be engaged, please go to: [www.mdcatholic.org](http://www.mdcatholic.org).

#### **Remind the Faithful of Information on the Website**

The archdiocesan website is updated regularly. Please see [adw.org/coronavirus](http://adw.org/coronavirus) for information related to the coronavirus, [adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/](http://adw.org/live-streamed-masses-and-prayers/) for a listing of live stream Masses and prayers, and [cathstan.org](http://cathstan.org) and [elpreg.org](http://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 and the Pastoral Center, please let us know.

With gratitude for your priestly ministry, I am

Sincerely in Christ,

**Most Reverend Juan Esposito**

*Vicar General and Moderator of the Curia*



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