



# ***Florida Catholic Advocacy Network Parish Postcard Initiative***

## ***A 4-Step Parish Guide***





### **What is the Florida Catholic Advocacy Network**

FLCAN is an 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.

### **Why Should Catholics Participate?**

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. If we are truly called to charity for our neighbor, if the Church has something to offer the world, then we need to provide an opportunity like this to people in the pews.

### **How Can Parishes Get Involved?**

Parishes across the state are engaging in efforts to promote the Florida Catholic Advocacy Network (FLCAN). By conducting postcard collections during weekend Masses and increasing participation in the network, parishes are able to help grow the Catholic voice and influence in the public square.

This initiative of the bishops of Florida provides Catholics across Florida with the opportunity to fulfill the responsibility to faithful citizenship. Through FLCAN, parishioners can stay connected and informed on the issues of the day. Subscribers can easily take action by contacting lawmakers and government officials on policy issues of interest and concern to our faith.





## A 4-Step Parish Guide

### **STEP 1: CHOOSE A DATE FOR THE POSTCARD INITIATIVE AND REQUEST POSTCARDS FROM THE FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS**

- A. Please complete the Parish Postcard Initiative Request Form included with this guide or contact the FCCB at (850) 222-3803 to tell them that you have scheduled a postcard initiative and to request postcards for your parish.
- B. Please provide the number of postcards needed to ensure an adequate supply for all people attending the Saturday Vigil and all Sunday Masses. Postcards will be mailed out to the parish, at no cost to parish.

### **STEP 2: PLACE ANNOUNCEMENT IN THE PARISH BULLETIN**

The following bulletin announcement should be placed in the parish bulletin the weekend prior to the postcard initiative.

#### **Bulletin Announcement**

##### **Florida Catholic Advocacy Network (FLCAN) Sign-Up**

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. Through the Florida Catholic Advocacy Network (FLCAN) Catholics across Florida can stay informed and take action on important public policy issues. Postcards will be available in the pews for you to complete next week. Please drop your postcard in the collection basket. **You can also text FLCAN to 50457 to receive FLCAN notifications via text.** You can also join online at [www.flaccb.org](http://www.flaccb.org).

#### **Anuncio en el Boletín**

##### **Red de Defensa Católica de la Florida (FLCAN) – Suscripciones**

La doctrina católica nos invita a amar y buscar justicia para nuestros vecinos; proteger lo sagrado y defender la dignidad de la vida humana en cada etapa del desarrollo; buscar la paz y promover el bien común. A través de la Red de Defensa Católica de la Florida (FLCAN) los católicos en la Florida puedan mantenerse informados y tomar acción sobre cuestiones importantes de la política pública. Tarjetas de suscripción estarán disponibles en los bancos de la iglesia para que puedan llenarla la próxima semana. Por favor entregue su tarjeta en la canasta de ofertorio. **También puede recibir notificaciones por texto mandando un mensaje al 50457 con las letras FLCAN.** También pueden suscribirse en línea, en [www.flaccb.org](http://www.flaccb.org).



### **STEP 3: PARISH OUTREACH INITIATIVE (POSTCARD COLLECTION)**

- A. **The Florida Catholic Advocacy Network (FLCAN) pulpit announcement** will be made by either the Mass celebrant or a designated parishioner; prior to or at the end of Mass, or during the liturgy.
- B. **FLCAN Postcards (as well as pencils)** are to be made available in the pews for parishioners before the pulpit announcement is delivered.
- C. **Please give parishioners at least a minute to complete their postcard.** All completed postcards are to be collected following the pulpit announcement or placed in the basket during the collection.

### **STEP 4: RETURN COMPLETED POSTCARDS TO THE FCCB**

All **completed postcards** are to be **returned to the FCCB within two weeks** of completion to:

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

Parishes are encouraged to return any excess blank cards. A small supply of cards can be kept by the parish to include on display tables/racks in the parish.

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



## **Pulpit Announcement**

The Florida Conference of Catholic Bishops (FCCB) is the nonpartisan public policy voice of the Church and serves as a liaison to state government on behalf of the 7 dioceses of Florida.

Through the Florida Catholic Advocacy Network (FLCAN) the Conference provides opportunities for Catholics in Florida to carry out their responsibilities as faithful citizens, to stay informed and take action on important public policy issues.

By connecting today, you will receive by email:

- action alerts on key legislation at both the state and federal level;
- legislative reports and summaries; and
- other resources from the Conference

Jesus invites us to be instruments of hope, peace, and solidarity; to love and pursue justice for our neighbors; and promote the common good. Therefore, we are called to participate in public life, and to joyfully advocate for life, dignity, and the common good.

Please take a minute now to connect with the advocacy network by completing a postcard found in your pew. [You can also receive FLCAN notifications by texting FLCAN to 50457.](#)

Please drop your completed postcard in the collection basket. Thank you for your participation and cooperation!

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



## **Anuncio desde el Púlpito**

La Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de la Florida (FCCB) es la voz no partidista de la Iglesia en la política pública y sirve de enlace con el gobierno estatal en nombre de las siete diócesis de la Florida.

A través de la Red de Defensa Católica de la Florida (FLCAN), la Conferencia ofrece oportunidades para que los católicos en la Florida puedan actualizar sus responsabilidades como ciudadanos fieles, mantenerse informados y tomar acción sobre cuestiones importantes de la política pública.

Al inscribirse hoy, recibirá por correo electrónico:

- alertas de acción oportuna sobre leyes claves a nivel estatal y federal;
- reportes y resúmenes legislativos; y
- otros recursos de parte de la Conferencia.

Jesús nos invita a ser instrumentos de esperanza, paz, y solidaridad; a amar y perseguir la justicia por el prójimo; y promover el bien común. Por lo tanto, somos llamados a participar en la vida pública, y jubilosamente abogar por la vida, la dignidad, y el bien común.

Por favor, tome un momento para inscribirse a la red de defensa completando una de las postales que se encuentran en su banco. [También puede recibir notificaciones por texto mandando un mensaje al 50457 con las letras FLCAN.](#)

Después de llenar la postal con su información, por favor entréguela en la canasta de ofertorio. Gracias por su participación y cooperación.

**Aviso:** La Conferencia de Obispos Católicos de la Florida no compartirá su información de contacto con otros individuos, grupos u organizaciones.