



DIocese OF OGDENSBURG

Diocesan Administrator

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March 8, 2010

Dear Pastors, Pastoral Delegates, Parish Administrators, Religious, Parochial Vicars, Deacons, Principals and Department Heads:

Your leadership in the Diocese of Ogdensburg is appreciated and necessary. The success of our diocesan events has been directly related to your hard work as leaders. You have proven many times your strength in gathering people and resources together. During this Lenten season, it is time, once again, to gather our people and our resources around the need to **Make Our Voices Heard** in Albany. On the weekend of March 20/21, 2010 there will be a Diocesan wide membership drive for the New York State Catholic Conference *Catholic Advocacy Network (CAN)*. We invite you, your parishioners and collaborators in your ministry, to join over 50,000 Catholics from across New York State in speaking up for public policies that respect the dignity of human life, support the family and represent the common good.

Enclosed is a flyer/bulletin announcement for distribution in the parishes, schools and to other groups. The 2010 Legislative Agenda and other information about the *Catholic Advocacy Network* is accessible on the New York State Catholic Conference website: www.nyscatholic.org.

You and your parishioners and collaborators are invited and encouraged to participate in this exciting and important Catholic Advocacy Network. This is just one more way for all of us to put our faith into action. What a great Lenten practice! Give a few minutes of your time and help to support public policies that reflect the Church's position on a variety of issues.

This Catholic Advocacy Network is free. It is as easy as a "click" on your computer. The attached flyer/bulletin announcement provides all of the information needed to join CAN. Please distribute to your parishioners, share with your collaborators in ministry and distribute to your community members.

Advocacy is the responsibility of every Catholic. We can make a difference! Your Lenten practice can have an ongoing impact on the development of public policies in New York State.

Thank you for your help in "getting the word out" to our people and wishing you a blessed Lent, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ

Most Reverend Terry R. LaValley
Bishop-elect of Ogdensburg