



## WHY JOIN THE CAN?

1. Every Catholic has both the privilege and the responsibility to participate in public life and to advocate for the common good all year round, not just at election time.
2. The Catholic Advocacy Network (CAN) unites many voices under the common goal of protecting human dignity and promoting justice. With over 2 million Catholics in Michigan, there is great potential for a strong Catholic voice to be heard at the State Capitol in Lansing.
3. Jesus instructed all Catholics to care for “the least among them” by feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, clothing the naked, and visiting the imprisoned. One way to carry out this mission and promote a society that respects the dignity of all is to influence the direction of public policy.
4. The teachings of the Church have consistently throughout time urged the faithful to become more educated and involved in current issues. The Catholic Advocacy Network provides regular email updates on policy issues of concern to Catholics.
5. Each of Michigan’s seven (arch)diocesan bishops supports the Catholic Advocacy Network and has appointed a contact person to increase participation in their particular (arch)diocese.
6. Elected officials need to hear from those they represent to best serve their communities. Through Catholic Advocacy Network messages, elected officials can understand which issues are most important to their constituents.
7. The Catholic Advocacy Network provides members with the tools they need to be successful advocates. When asking members to contact their elected officials about an issue (Action Alerts), MCC sends background information and a sample email message, and provides brief regular updates (*Lansing Update*) during the year about what is going on at the State Capitol.
8. Michigan Catholic Conference (MCC) respects the time of its members- members can choose which Action Alerts to respond to and how personal they want to make their messages to lawmakers.
9. The Catholic Advocacy Network is free, and MCC will never sell or rent out member information to other organizations.
10. It’s easy to join the Catholic Advocacy Network. Sign up now at [www.micatholic.org/can/](http://www.micatholic.org/can/) and encourage family and friends to join as well.

CAN is an outreach of the Michigan Catholic Conference, the official public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Michigan