

WISCONSIN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

MEDIA RELEASE March 30, 2021

CATHOLICS AT THE CAPITOL 2021 GOES VIRTUAL

Due to the current pandemic and numerous factors affecting individuals' ability to travel and gather, the Wisconsin Catholic Conference (WCC) is announcing the cancellation of the *Catholics at the Capitol* in-person event scheduled for Wednesday, April 21, 2021. However, in lieu of the in-person event, the WCC is sponsoring a free virtual advocacy day on April 21 and has just opened the online registration: www.wisconsincatholic.org/catholics-at-the-capitol.

"*Catholics at the Capitol* is something that we and our Catholic partners have regularly hosted for 20 years," said WCC Executive Director Kim Vercauteren. "We're going to miss having Catholics come together from all over Wisconsin for this day of prayer, fellowship, and advocacy. However, it remains vitally important that policymakers hear from the faithful during these challenging times. We wanted to make certain that the collective Catholic voice was still present and heard at the State Capitol."

Ahead of April 21, all registered participants will be provided with background information on advocacy positions and requests, as well as instructions for arranging meetings with legislators. All are encouraged to take part and no prior advocacy experience is necessary.

The day itself will feature a virtual advocacy training and review at 9 am, which includes the opportunity for attendees to ask questions of the WCC staff. Participants will then conduct meetings with their elected officials between 10 am and 4 pm to discuss several key issues that are currently being considered by the Legislature in the state's biennial budget proposal.

Registration for this event is required and those interested must complete the online registration available at <u>www.wisconsincatholic.org/catholics-at-the-capitol</u>. The site will also be updated with additional information leading up to April 21.

For more information, visit <u>www.wisconsincatholic.org</u>, email <u>office@wisconsincatholic.org</u>, or contact 608-257-0004.

-30-

For more information, contact the Kim Vercauteren at 608-257-0004.