



UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

3.4.22 In this advocacy update from the Office of Government Relations:

- Archbishop Lori and Cardinal Dolan respond to Senate Rejection of Extreme Abortion on Demand Bill
- U.S. Bishops' President Echoes Pope Francis' Call for Prayer and Fasting for Ukraine
- Bishops support including the Afghan Adjustment Act and Pregnant Workers Fairness Act in budget agreement
- USCCB Committee on Migration joins Alliance for a New Immigration Consensus
- Did You Know? Ash Wednesday Collection Supports the Church in Central and Eastern Europe
- Trending This Week

Archbishop Lori and Cardinal Dolan respond to Senate Rejection of Extreme Abortion on Demand Bill



Baltimore Archbishop William E. Lori speaks from the floor during the fall general assembly of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops in Baltimore Nov. 11, 2019. (CNS photo/Bob Roller)

After the misnamed Women’s Health Protection Act failed to advance in the Senate early this week, Archbishop Lori and Cardinal Dolan issued a [statement](#) saying, “We must respect and support mothers, their unborn children, and the consciences of all Americans. Passing H.R. 3755 would have led to the loss of millions of unborn lives and left countless women to suffer from the physical and emotional trauma of abortion. Rather than providing comprehensive material and social support for a challenging pregnancy, H.R. 3755 fails women and young girls in need by instead offering a free abortion as the ‘solution’ to their difficulty. Women deserve better than this. We implore Congress to promote policies that recognize the value and human dignity of both mother and child.” A letter from Archbishop Lori and Cardinal Dolan urging the Senate to oppose this bill can be read [here](#).

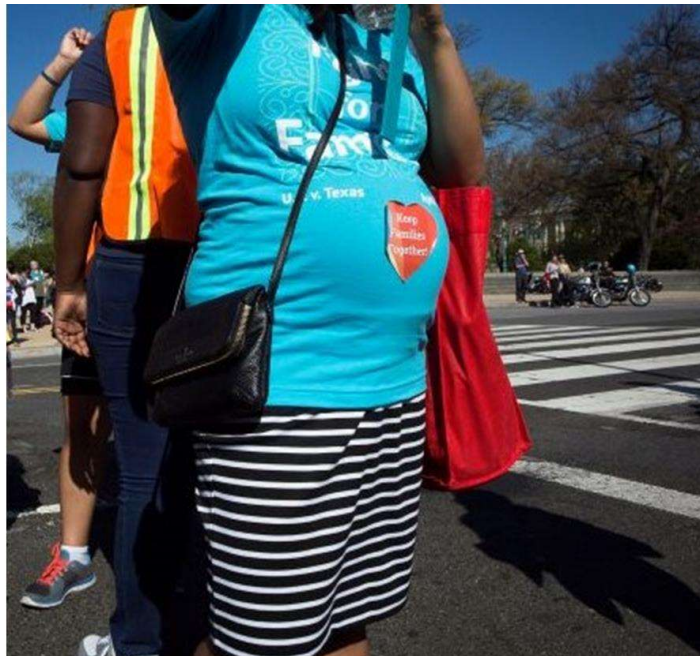
U.S. Bishops' President Echoes Pope Francis' Call for Prayer and Fasting for Ukraine



Pope Francis greets the crowd during his general audience in the Paul VI hall at the Vatican March 2, 2022. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)

Archbishop José H. Gomez of Los Angeles, president of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops issued this [statement](#) on Ukraine: "On behalf of my brother bishops, I echo the Holy Father's call for prayer and fasting to end the war in Ukraine. In times of trouble, we call on the tender mercy of God ... to guide our feet to the way of peace (Lk 1:78-79). May our prayers, joined with those of people around the world, help guide those waging war to end the meaningless suffering and restore peace. Our Lady, Queen of Peace, pray for us." Bishop David J. Malloy of Rockford, chairman of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' Committee on International Justice and Peace, said in an earlier [statement](#): "In this time of fear and uncertainty, we stand in solidarity with the Church in Ukraine and offer our support. We call on all the faithful and people of good will to pray for the people of Ukraine."

Bishops support including the Afghan Adjustment Act and Pregnant Workers Fairness Act in budget agreement



A pregnant woman is seen outside the U.S. Supreme Court in Washington in this 2016 file photo. (CNS photo/Tyler Orsburn).

As negotiations on an omnibus package continue, the USCCB urges Congress to consider including the bipartisan Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, and Afghan Adjustment Act in any agreement. In their [letter of support](#) for the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, three bishop chairmen wrote, "The Catholic bishops of the United States have repeatedly called for circumstances of employment that better support family life, especially in the challenges associated with having children.." The bishops are also [urging Congress](#) to provide a pathway for Afghan parolees to pursue lawful permanent resident status. [Background on Afghan Adjustment Act.](#)

USCCB Committee on Migration joins Alliance for a New Immigration Consensus



Washington Auxiliary Bishop Mario E. Dorsonville, chairman of the U.S. bishops' migration committee, gives the homily during Mass at St. John Neumann Church in Gaithersburg, Md., Sept. 27, 2020. The Mass marked the World Day of Migrants and Refugees and also commemorated the Peruvian devotion of the Lord of the Miracles, as seen in a replica image near the bishop. (CNS photo/Mihoko Owada, Catholic Standard)

"We have come together as faith and education leaders, the business community, and advocates from across the political spectrum to announce the Alliance for a New Immigration Consensus. This Alliance believes that Congress and the White House can come together on immigration reforms that address issues impacting communities across America, including the legal status of Dreamers, farm workers and other immigrants contributing to our communities, the security at our border, and the economic concerns regarding the availability and cost of the food on our tables." Read the ANIC letter [here](#).

Did You Know?






RESTORE THE CHURCH
BUILD THE FUTURE

Support the Collection for the Church in Central and Eastern Europe



Each year on Ash Wednesday is the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB) Collection for Central and Eastern Europe. In 2021, gifts to the collection provided more than \$6.4 million for 348 grants to support the [Church in Central and Eastern Europe](#). For example, in Poland, where more than 1 million people have fled the ongoing war in Ukraine, the Jesuits of Southern Poland and Ukraine Mission established DEON, UA, a Ukrainian language digital platform offering secular and Catholic news and discussion forums to help Ukrainian immigrants stay informed and build relationships.

Trending and Social Media Highlights

	Pope Francis: "Today we enter the time of #Lent. Our prayer and fasting will be a plea for #peace in #Ukraine, bearing in mind that peace in the world always begins with our personal conversion, following Christ."
	Archbishop José Gomez: "My brothers and sisters, Jesus is telling us two things today. The first is that in our faith we are always learning, always walking with him. And the second is that we cannot judge others as we all are sinners."
	CNS: Lent 3.0: Third Lent in pandemic offers chance for spiritual reset, healing

The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' (USCCB's) mission is to encounter the mercy of Christ and to accompany His people with joy.

The [Office of Government Relations \(OGR\)](#) represents the USCCB before the U.S. Congress on public policy issues of concern to the bishops. Please reach out to our team if we can be of assistance to you.

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