



Office of the Bishop

August 26, 2019

Dear Pastors, Parish Administrators, and Staff,

The 2019 Missouri Catholic Conference (MCC) Annual Assembly will take place on Saturday, October 5, at the Missouri State Capitol building in Jefferson City. I am writing to inform you of some of the planned activities and to encourage you to invite your parishioners to attend this important event for all Catholics in our state.

The theme for the 2019 MCC Annual Assembly will be “Raising the Next Generation of Catholic Advocates”. Our opening keynote speaker will be David Bereit, founder of 40 Days for Life and current staff member of FOCUS, the Fellowship of Catholic University Students.

In addition to the keynote address, we have arranged for four seasoned Catholic leaders to share their experiences advocating on Catholic education, social justice, criminal justice, and pro-life. There will also be a strong line-up of workshops on topics such as immigration, gender ideology, racism, and the Pope’s recent encyclical on youth, *Christus Vivit*. The day will conclude with a Mass concelebrated by the Catholic bishops of Missouri.

You should have already received posters, brochures and fliers, as well as a bulletin insert/pulpit announcement from the MCC to help promote the Annual Assembly. Please use these materials in the coming weeks to make your parishioners aware and to encourage them to attend. In this way our diocese will be well-represented and our faithful will return home energized and better informed about the issues and how they can make a difference as Catholic citizens.

To assist you further, our diocesan Human Rights and Respect Life Offices will once again host a pilgrimage to Jefferson City. Bus transportation from St. Charles Borromeo Parish in Gladstone and St. Mark Parish in Independence will be available for a nominal fee.

The Missouri Catholic Conference has a wealth of information about the Annual Assembly on its website. To register for the 2019 Annual Assembly, please visit www.mocatholic.org. For additional information about the diocesan pilgrimage, please contact Teresa at thoepner@diocesekcsj.org or 816.756.1850 (x558).

Thank you for your support of this very special event.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Most Reverend James V. Johnston, Jr.
Bishop of Kansas City-St. Joseph

Diocese of Kansas City - St. Joseph

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