

Easter 2025

Brother Bishop,

May the God who affirms life in the Resurrection of Christ be with you this joyful Easter season. Especially during this Jubilee Year, on this journey of hope, we find ourselves again invited to reflect on the Church's unwavering pro-life commitment, including its work to end capital punishment.

Catholic Mobilizing Network (CMN) was founded in 2009 to advance the USCCB's *Catholic Campaign to End the Use of the Death Penalty*. Over the last 15 years, CMN has led our Church's ministry to end the death penalty, to advance justice solutions in alignment with Catholic values, and to promote healing through restorative justice approaches and practices. CMN's prayer, education and advocacy programming creates the space to encounter those impacted by harm, and model paths where healing and transformation might be possible.

Since the 2018 revision to the Catechism (CCC 2267) that called the death penalty "inadmissible," six new states have officially halted executions. CMN played an integral part in each of these positive developments, and most recently, catalyzed the campaign to encourage President Biden to commute dozens of federal death sentences before leaving office. The enclosed document includes more information about CMN's collaboration with the USCCB, achievements, and recent activities.

Today, we write to invite you to support CMN's important pro-life ministry. CMN receives no other institutional funding from the Church, so its yearly appeal to the U.S. bishops is critical to continuing its essential mission. In the spirit of Jubilee, this year, we have set a **goal of \$90,000 from at least 100 bishops.** May your support for CMN bear fruit in building up a culture of life.

Let us join the Holy Father "...in demanding dignified conditions for those in prison, respect for their human rights and above all the abolition of the death penalty, a provision at odds with Christian faith and one that eliminates all hope of forgiveness and rehabilitation." ("Hope Does Not Disappoint", Bull of Indiction of the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025)

Together, we can uphold the dignity of all life.

Fraternally In Christ,

Most Rev. Daniel E. Flores, STD Bishop of Brownsville CMN Episcopal Advisor

Archbishop Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Catholic
Archeparchy of Philadelphia

Chair, Committee on Domestic Justice and Human Development

Most Rev. Samuel J. Aquila Most Rev. Gregory M. Aymond Most Rev. John O. Barres Archbishop of Denver Archbishop of New Orleans Bishop of Rockville Centre + Mars A. Routes Most Rev. Robert Barron Most Rev. Mark A. Bartosic Most Rev. Ramon Bejarano Bishop of Winona-Rochester Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago Auxiliary Bishop of San Diego + Mark E. Brenna Most Rev. Steven R. Biegler Most Rev. Stephen J. Berg Most Rev. Mark E. Brennan Bishop of Pueblo Bishop of Cheyenne Bishop of Wheeling-Charleston + Sett E. Bullon Most Rev. Timothy P. Broglio Most Rev. Scott E. Bullock Most Rev. Robert J. Brennan Bishop of Brooklyn Archbishop for the Military Services, USA Bishop of Rapid City thank scaggiano Most Rev. Oscar Cantú Most Rev. Brendan J.\Cahill Most Rev. Frank J. Caggiano Bishop of Bridgeport Bishop of Victoria Bishop of San Jose Most Rev. Paul S. Coakley Most Rev. Salvatore J. Cordileone st Rev. James F. Checchio Bishop of Metuchen Archbishop of Oklahoma City Archbishop of San Francisco + Christophen J. Coyne Most Rev/Frank J. Dewane Most Rev. Christopher J. Coyne His Eminence Car. Blase J. Cupich Archbishop of Hartford Archbishop of Chicago Bishop of Venice Daniel Cardinal Dihardo Caro. WV Can His Eminence Car. Daniel N. DiNardo Most Rev. Eusebio L. Elizondo, MSpS His Eminence Car. Timothy M. Dolan Archbishop Emeritus of Galveston-Archbishop of New York Auxiliary Bishop of Seattle Houston Most Rev. Felipe J. Estévez Most Rev. Paul D. Etienne Most Rev. Shelton J. Fabre Bishop Emeritus of St. Augustine Archbishop of Seattle Archbishop of Louisville

END THE DEATH PENALTY • ADVANCE JUSTICE • BEGIN HEALING

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Bishop of Columbus

Most Rev. John T. Folda

Bishop of Fargo

Most Rev./Jacques E. Fabre-Jeune, CS

Bishop of Charleston

Most Rev. Daniel E. Garcia Bishop of Monterey

Most Rev. Jeffrey S. Grob Archbishop of Milwaukee

+ Lonald a. Hichs

Most Rev. Ronald A. Hicks Bishop of Joliet

Most Rev. Louis Kihneman, III Bishop of Biloxi

Most Rev. Joseph R. Kopacz Bishop of Jackson

Most Rev. William E. Lori

Archbishop of Baltimore

His Eminence Car. Robert W. McElroy Archbishop of Washington

Most Rev. Joseph F. Naumann

Archbishop of Kansas City

Most Rev. Gregory L. Parkes Bishop of St. Petersburg

Most Rev. Joseph N. Perry Auxiliary Bishop of Chicago Most Rev. Gustavo García-Siller, MSpS

Archbishop of San Antonio

+ Robert D Grus

Most Rev. Robert D. Gruss Bishop of Saginaw

Most Rev. William M. Joensen Bishop of Des Moines

Most Rev. Barry C. Knestout Bishop of Richmond

Most Rév. Joseph E. Kurtz, DD Archbishop Emeritus of Louisville

+ Edward C. Malerie

Most Rev. Edward C. Malesic Bishop of Cleveland

Most Rev. Michael G. McGovern Administrator of the Diocese of Belleville Archbishop-designate of Omaha

+ Batrick M. Meary, C.S.C. Most Rev. Patrick M. Neary, C.S.C. Bishop of St. Cloud

Suphin D. Harker Most Rev. Stephen D. Parkes Bishop of Savannah

Most Rev. Erik T. Pohlmeier Bishop of St. Augustine

Din Card Duy His Eminence Car. Wilton D. Gregory

Archbishop Emeritus of Washington

+ Lie gary ); Hartmayer, OSM Conv.

Most Rev. Gregory J. Hartmayer, OFM Conv. Archbishop of Atlanta

+ Donald Kettler

Most Rev. Donald J. Kettler Bishop Emeritus of St. Cloud

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Most Rev. Thomas Zinkula

Archbishop of Dubuque

Most Rev. David A. Zubik

Bishop of Pittsburgh

Most Rev. A. Elias Zaidan, MLM

Bishop of the Maronite Eparchy of Our

Lady of Lebanon



## A YEAR OF IMPACT

March 2024 - March 2025



#### **Giving Thanks for Historic Federal Commutations**

This past year, Catholic Mobilizing Network engaged in a high-level national strategy campaign urging President Joe Biden to commute the federal death row before leaving office. With support from all corners of the Church, there were several key milestones along the successful commutation journey. In March, renowned anti-death penalty lawyer Bryan Stevenson briefed six bishops traveling with CMN and the USCCB to Montgomery, Alabama, In June, CMN met with leaders from the Vatican Secretariat of State, Dicastery for Integral Human Development, and Sant'Egidio Community in Rome. In October, CMN initiated a national campaign garnering wide media attention and national support. Throughout the fall, CMN facilitated private outreach by death penalty impacted messengers directly with White House officials. In late November, Krisanne Vaillancourt Murphy hand delivered a letter about federal commutations to Pope Francis. On Dec. 8, the Holy Father prayed for death row commutations in the United States during his Sunday Angelus. The USCCB and the Vatican urged the White House to issue federal commutations. And on Dec. 23, on the eve of the Jubilee Year, the White House announced its historic decision to commute 37 federal death sentences. Praise God!



#### **Justice Reimagined**

CMN celebrated its 15th anniversary with the Justice Reimagined Awards & Celebration hosted at the Apostolic Nunciature of the Holy See. Cardinal Christophe Pierre welcomed the crowd with greetings from the Holy Father, and Archbishop Borys Gudziak shared words of gratitude and encouragement.



#### **First Friday Virtual Prayer Vigils**

CMN is blessed with consistent participation from bishops at its monthly First Friday Prayer Vigils. This year, Bishop Mark Brennan, Archbishop Thomas Zinkula, and Cardinal Joseph Tobin provided Scripture Reflections.



### **Media Coverage**

The past year generated an all-time high for CMN's earned media in religious and secular outlets, including top-tier publications.



## **Bishops Experience in Montgomery & Selma, AL**

In partnership with the USCCB's Ad Hoc Committee Against Racism, CMN facilitated an experience in Alabama in March 2024 for six bishops and USCCB staff members, to confront the history of racial terror and resilience in the birthplace of the Civil Rights Movement.



# 2025 BISHOPS' EASTER APPEAL

#### Contributions can be mailed to:

Catholic Mobilizing Network 415 Michigan Ave NE Suite 210 Washington, DC 20017

#### Contributions can be made online:

catholicsmobilizing.org/bishops-25

\* Electronic Fund Transfer can be completed either through the "echeck" option on the online donation form, or using CMN's bank info listed below.

# BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS FOR ELECTRONIC FUND TRANSFER

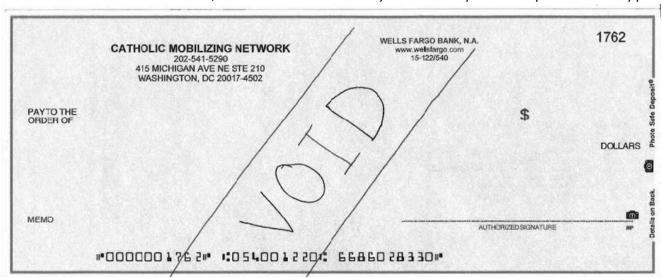
#### **Bank Account Information:**

Bank Acct Name: Catholic Mobilizing Network
Bank Name: Wells Fargo Bank, NA
Bank Address: 3700 Calvert St. NW

Washington, DC 20007

Bank Acct #: 6686028330
Bank Routing #: 054001220
Bank Acct Type: Checking

\*The above information is accurate, and CMN has authorized your direct deposit in response to this appeal.



# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

