



Tips for Parish Leads - Year-Round Advocacy PHASE I

- 1) Contact staff and volunteer life and justice ministry leads within your parish to gain their commitment to be part of the parish advocacy team. They in turn can recruit 1-2 people from each of their ministries.
- 2) Commit to meet and pray regularly about this work and make sure to advise the team that your focus will be on both respect life and social justice concerns.
- 3) Conduct a parish survey or otherwise determine several areas of priority that the group can focus on in the immediate future and, year-round.
- 4) Schedule Catholic Social Teaching (CST) training and Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship (FCFC) training with the WSCC via Zoom. 1 – 1 ½ hour long each. The USCCB and CRS also have very good videos and resources for this available in English and Spanish.
- 5) Ask all advocacy team members in your parish to watch the short informational and how-to videos on Catholic advocacy created by the WSCC and posted to our YouTube channel in English and Spanish at <https://www.youtube.com/c/WACatholics>
- 6) Like WSCC on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube, etc. via your parish social media, and encourage individuals to do so too.
- 7) Over time, identify experts in your parish (medical, - labor and delivery, hospice, mental health, etc.), immigration, housing, environmental, etc., and ask if they might be willing to testify on their areas of expertise (via Zoom or in person), when needed, at public hearings during the legislative session.
- 8) Ask all advocacy team members to review the current Legislative Priorities for the Washington Bishops at <https://www.wacatholics.org/stay-informed/wsc-2021-legislative-priorities>
- 9) Ask all advocacy team members in your parish to sign up at [Washington State Catholic Conference \(wacatholics.org\)](https://www.wacatholics.org) to begin receiving informational bulletins and alerts to advocate in writing at State and Federal levels.