



Washington State Catholic Conference

The Public Policy Voice of the Bishops of Washington State

WSCC Newsletter for Catholic Schools

Summer/Fall Quarter 2021





The [Washington State Catholic Conference](#) (WSCC) is the public policy voice of the bishops of the state. This quarterly newsletter focuses on legislative issues of particular importance to Catholic Schools.

The Bishops of Washington State invite you to the
2021 Cornerstone Catholic Conference


FORMING DISCIPLES FOR LIFE & JUSTICE

OCTOBER 30, 2021 | VIRTUAL CONFERENCE





BISHOPS' PANEL The bishops of Washington state will be speaking on **Forming Disciples for Life and Justice**.

 Archbishop Paul D. Etienne	 Bishop Eusebio Elizondo	 Bishop Joseph J. Tyson	 Bishop Thomas A. Daly
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Featured Musicians
Martín Valverde (left)
Pedro Rubalcava (right)




KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

 Fr. Robert Spitzer <i>Presenting in English</i> A Case for the Inalienable Rights of the Pre-Born
 Gloria Purvis <i>Presenting in English</i> What do the Racial Justice and Pro-Life Movements Have in Common?
 Fr. Agustino Torres <i>Presenting in Spanish and English</i> Maintaining Christian Joy In Times of Darkness
 Brenda Noriega <i>Presenting in Spanish</i> Love your neighbor as yourself! "And who is my neighbor?" (Lk 10:29)

No registration fee! Please register to receive access to the conference, and donations are welcome. wacatholics.org/cornerstone-2021

Se ofrecerán las presentaciones en español e inglés. Spanish and English presentations will be offered.



Register Now for the October 30 Cornerstone Catholic Conference!

The WSCC bishops invite you to their 2021 [Cornerstone Catholic Conference](#). Speakers will present in both English and Spanish. There is no cost to attend this event, but please [register](#) to gain access to the conference. We welcome donations to help cover planning expenses. Small groups and parishes are encouraged to host Cornerstone [watch parties](#) that follow diocesan guidelines. Please note that it is not possible to provide teacher Clock Hours for this event. We look forward to seeing you virtually on October 30!

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State Legislative Session to Begin in January

The next state legislative session will begin on January 10, 2022 and run for 60 days. A new state budget is passed every other year. In years when the state budget is not under consideration, sessions are “shorter.” The upcoming 2022 session will be a “short” session. The WSCC will be tracking bills that relate to the bishops’ legislative priorities and advocating for or challenging legislation accordingly. Supporting Catholic Schools is one of WSCC’s legislative priorities. To stay up to date on state legislative issues related to Catholic schools and the bishops’ priorities, please [join our network](#) to receive our Catholic Advocacy bulletin. We will notify you when bills need action, and you can advocate in simple, quick ways such as signing in electronically in favor of or against bills on the [state legislative website](#) or emailing prewritten letter to legislators.



Bishop Daly to Serve as Chair of USCCB Committee on Education



In November WSCC Bishop Thomas Daly of the Diocese of Spokane will begin his three-year term as chair of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) [Committee on Education](#). Under Bishop Daly’s leadership, the USCCB Committee on Education will provide guidance for the education mission of the Church in the United States in all of its institutional settings. The scope of the committee’s work includes Catholic elementary and secondary schools, Catholic colleges and universities, and college campus ministry.

Photo Credit: Diocese of Spokane

WA Bishops Encourage the Faithful to Get Vaccinated

As a reminder, the Washington State Catholic Conference, comprised of the bishops of Washington state, along with the Catholic Charities and Catholic Health Care organizations of the state support getting COVID-19 vaccinations. As also stated by Pope Francis, these vaccinations are morally permissible and will protect the faithful, loved ones, and the community. Read the full statement [here](#).

Photo Credit: NW Catholic



How Can I Learn More About Policy Issues That Are Important to Catholics of Washington?

Join our network to find out: wacatholics.org/join. You will receive our Catholic Advocacy Bulletin and occasional Action Alerts. Through the end of the year our Catholic Advocacy Bulletin will be emailed monthly. During the state legislative session it is emailed weekly. You can also find the WSCC at wacatholics.org and on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube](#), and [Instagram](#).

Invitation to Join School Choice Efforts

You can do something *today* to make Catholic education accessible for all.

Join [Empower Washington](http://empowerwashington.org) - a cross-partisan movement that is working to put families at the center of our education system. The policy we're fighting for would empower parents to decide how to spend their education tax dollars. This means families could choose the school which is best for their child, including a Catholic school.



Never been involved in a political movement? Don't worry, there are plenty of ways to get involved. We need parents, teachers, school leaders, board members - anyone passionate about making a difference for kids in Washington. Don't feel qualified? Remember, God *never* calls the qualified.

Email quentin@empowerwashington.org to learn more.



WSCC Staff



We invite you to contact us at any time.

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