Central Deanery

Julie Drake has accepted the position as Chairman of the Legislative Advocacy Committee for Central Deanery, Information was sent regarding the Primary Elections, including the websites for the Election Offices in Orange, Osceola, and Seminole Counties, as well as results of the Candidate Polls done by Florida Catholic Conference.

Following are some of the activities that the affiliations are involved in:

\* Signed up for Legislative Alerts from Florida Catholic Conference;

\* Promoting “Catholic Days at the Capitol;

\* Planning a Pro-Life Novena;

\* Preparing to attend the state-wide March for Life in St. Augustine; and

\* Praying a Rosary for our nation.

Southern Deanery

Southern Deanery Ascension CCW had 2 weekends after Masses with Voter Registration availability. Also on August 16, they offered a Candidate Forum. Senator Bill Posey was in attendance as well as other candidates. It was live streamed by Brevard Daily.

Divine Mercy CCW leg/advocacy focused on raising awareness and interest in the FLCCB.org internet site.  Each email included explaining and promoting Catholic Days at the Capitol, the elections and advocacy.

Western Deanery

RCCW have been updating our members with the activities of the Polk Ecumenical Action Council for Empowerment's (PEACE) They have been asking the county commission to provide more funding out of the 1/2 sales tax for indigent healthcare for mental health treatment. RCCW ladies to attend the Nehemiah Action along with members of St. Anthony's and St. Joe's in Lakeland and Winter Haven. We have also written letters to our legislators asking them not to raid the affordable housing trust fund which would provide funding to our county to help alleviate the lack of affordable housing.

**Catholic Days at the Capitol Issues**

* Parental consent required for a minor’s abortion, [HB 1335](https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.myfloridahouse.gov%2FSections%2FBills%2Fbillsdetail.aspx%3FBillId%3D66157%26SessionId%3D87&data=02%7C01%7Ctoya.martin%40polk-fl.net%7C6017b7435f9740b6bde808d6a705f61f%7C3ce159a93b59425bb96604d39f099bba%7C0%7C0%7C636880041390919559&sdata=kTA38SF%2BGM0YYyeLaB4Kx9yjys8JyAqxnKkJYtHYddI%3D&reserved=0) / [SB 1774](https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.flsenate.gov%2FSession%2FBill%2F2019%2F01774&data=02%7C01%7Ctoya.martin%40polk-fl.net%7C6017b7435f9740b6bde808d6a705f61f%7C3ce159a93b59425bb96604d39f099bba%7C0%7C0%7C636880041390919559&sdata=0PyNb2qT%2Bn0taHe4LpI%2B88w4Pf7W12uNwtJnxkXN8VY%3D&reserved=0) (this is an issue we addressed earlier) Background information:  [https://flaccb.org/news/new-educational-resource-on-floridas-privacy-clause](https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fflaccb.org%2Fnews%2Fnew-educational-resource-on-floridas-privacy-clause&data=02%7C01%7Ctoya.martin%40polk-fl.net%7C6017b7435f9740b6bde808d6a705f61f%7C3ce159a93b59425bb96604d39f099bba%7C0%7C0%7C636880041390929564&sdata=tK1askeCMnsgQmRL2sdHTmmbNErHdYggEYjlqnh01BQ%3D&reserved=0)
* Environmental initiatives ([Governor’s funding request for Everglades restoration & protection of water resources](https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.flgov.com%2F2019%2F01%2F29%2Fgovernor-ron-desantis-recommends-625-million-for-everglades-restoration-and-protection-of-water-resources%2F&data=02%7C01%7Ctoya.martin%40polk-fl.net%7C6017b7435f9740b6bde808d6a705f61f%7C3ce159a93b59425bb96604d39f099bba%7C0%7C0%7C636880041390939569&sdata=Jhf1O2g9lJii%2FEH3ao2ueKpcX0%2FUB0Q%2BzzBMWh4bRGQ%3D&reserved=0))
* Elimination of the Florida Tax Credit Scholarship waiting list, [SB 7070](https://nam02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.flsenate.gov%2FSession%2FBill%2F2019%2F07070&data=02%7C01%7Ctoya.martin%40polk-fl.net%7C6017b7435f9740b6bde808d6a705f61f%7C3ce159a93b59425bb96604d39f099bba%7C0%7C0%7C636880041390939569&sdata=7%2BynohqR58msMq8BYGbMR%2F2JjPw1lZbFTWAUz6kSrqU%3D&reserved=0) (This is an omnibus bill that contains several provisions, we will be focused on the new school choice program; House bill to be filed)

Next Catholic Days at the Capitol will be January 28-29, 2020