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June 2012

Dear Pastor,

Thank you for participating in the effort to promote our Illinois Catholic Advocacy Network (I-CAN).

The launch of I-CAN is the Illinois bishops' contribution to the USCCB's "Fortnight for Freedom," set for June 21-July 4. Cardinal George of Chicago and the other bishops from the dioceses of Belleville, Joliet, Peoria, Rockford and Springfield are encouraging pastors to ask parishioners to fill out the enclosed pew cards during the "Fortnight for Freedom." CCI is asking for parishioners' email address so we can keep them updated on state and federal issues affecting the Church, such as the HHS mandate. We ask for their home address so we know which legislative district they live in.

Enclosed are 300 pew cards, shrink-wrapped in groups of 100. During pilot projects of sign-up efforts for I-CAN, pastors who were enthusiastic about the program garnered a 30 percent response rate from Mass attendees. If you lead a large parish and believe you will need more cards, please contact us at 312-368-1066, or download a PDF of the pew card from our website <a href="https://www.ilcatholic.org">www.ilcatholic.org</a>.

To download the pew card and other additional resources, such as a sample talk about I-CAN and a bulletin ad, go to <a href="www.ilcatholic.org">www.ilcatholic.org</a>, click on "Protect Religious Freedom" on the Home page to get to the Religious Freedom page. Scroll down to the "Fortnight for Freedom Activities" heading.

Please feel free to contact us at the Catholic Conference of Illinois if you have further questions.

Thank you for making I-CAN a success!

Robert Gilligan
Executive Director

Catholic Conference of Illinois

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## Instructions for returning completed pew cards

Please gather and rubber-band the completed cards in groups of 100 or less, **making sure cards are aligned the same and facing in the same direction.** 

Mail the rubber-banded cards in a large envelope to the following address:

CCI Processing Center 1906 Swift Ave. North Kansas City, MO 64116