

# CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK RALLY

## ARIZONA STATE CAPITOL



Wednesday

January 28, 2009

11:30 am

Following Catholic Schools Week Mass

## 2008 Rally Highlights

Over 33 Catholic Schools Represented  
including  
Flagstaff, Prescott, Casa Grande, Bapchule and Tucson

1200 Students in Attendance

Speakers from the Arizona State Senate and House of  
Representatives  
including

Senate President

Speaker of the House

Chair of the House Education Committee

Member of the Senate Education Committee

## 2009 Catholic Schools Capitol Rally

When: Wednesday, January 28, 2009

Where: Arizona state Capitol - House Lawn

Who: Bishop Olmsted - Phoenix  
Bishop Kicanas - Tucson

Other Speakers: Members of the Arizona  
State Senate and House of Representatives

### Catholic Parent Advocacy Network

This committee serves to educate and mobilize the parents in our Diocesan school community. This committee is responsible for staying current on state and federal legislation which impacts our Catholic schools. The committee has mobilized representatives from each parish school to form CPAN (Catholic Parents Advocacy Network). Following the direction of the Arizona Catholic Conference and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, the committee coordinates communication from the network to our legislators about bills that will benefit our children and our schools. The committee is also responsible for the planning rallies at the state capitol as well as visits

with members of both state and federal legislators to advocate for our schools on matters of education policy. Members of the committee also attend the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Congressional Advocacy Day's held in Washington D.C. each spring. In-services are presented throughout the year for the benefit of parents and parish school boards.

#### ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Present at Fall In-Services to educate and grow our network of schools, parents, community that support Catholic education.
- Mobilize the Parent Network during the Arizona State Legislative Sessions on the legislation relating to Catholic Education, and also on the federal level as to the reauthorization of IDEA.
- Attend Congressional Advocacy Days (CAD) in Washington in early spring visiting the offices of all ten members of the Arizona Congressional delegation in Support of the USCCB educational agenda.

- Participate on panels concerning tax credits around the country regarding the Arizona Tax Credit and its benefit to our Catholic schools in Arizona.
- Participated in Advisory Board meeting of the national parent advocacy group, directed by Marie Powell of the USCCB Department of Education (the weekend of CAD).
- Local visits with legislative and congressional members.
- Meeting in February 2008 with Sister Rosa Maria Ruiz and members of her Tucson Diocesan School Board, about helping mobilize CPAN in Tucson.
- Rally at State Capitol Senate lawn on January 30, 2008, thanking legislators and celebrating the 10 year anniversary of the tax credit. More than 30 schools and over 1200 students expected. Schools and parents are invited to visit with their legislators after the rally and tour the Capitol buildings.

## Knights of Columbus

The Knights of Columbus give their time and resources to help sponsor the rally and the event is also manned by approximately 10 members of CPAN and the Diocesan School Board.

The Catholic Parents Advocacy Network (CPAN) of the Diocesan School Board appreciates the commitment of the Knights of Columbus in support of Catholic Education.

This year we hope to build on the added energy and excitement from the participation of High School Student Government representatives in the planning and execution of the Rally Come join us January 28, 2009!