



Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth
Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage

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March 26, 2015

Dear Brother Bishops,

As you may be aware, several organizations have come together to sponsor a third **March for Marriage** which is scheduled to be held on **Saturday April 25, 2015** in Washington, D.C. This event is taking place three days before the U.S. Supreme Court hears oral arguments on the constitutionality of states' preserving the legal definition of marriage as the union of one man and one woman.

We are grateful for this opportunity once again to express support for the March for Marriage and to encourage participation in this event. We ask that you consider promoting this event in your diocese and parishes and participating if possible.

The March will be an opportunity to stand for the good of marriage in our nation, to pray for our Supreme Court justices, and to demonstrate our commitment to the well-being of children. It complements well the bishops' Call to Prayer for Life, Marriage, and Religious Liberty (www.usccb.org/pray). The anticipated decision of the Supreme Court positions itself to be the most important judicial ruling in our nation since the infamous *Roe v. Wade* decision declaring a constitutional right to abortion. The March is an important witness to a movement dedicated to building a culture of marriage and the family, and it serves to remind all people that a Supreme Court ruling will not decide the issue of marriage any more than *Roe* decided the issue of abortion. We are deeply grateful for any support you can offer for this March.

The website promoting this event is available at www.marriagemarch.org. The Secretariat of Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth will be promoting it through the USCCB and *Marriage: Unique for a Reason* websites and social media.

With profound appreciation for all you do in support of marriage and family life, and with our assurance of prayers as we approach Holy Week, we remain

Fraternally yours in Christ,

Most Reverend Richard J. Malone
Bishop of Buffalo
Chairman, Committee on Laity, Marriage, Family Life and Youth

Most Reverend Salvatore J. Cordileone
Archbishop of San Francisco
Chairman, Subcommittee for the Promotion and Defense of Marriage