

Participating in Jesus' Prophetic Ministry

The Old Testament **Prophets** spoke God's word to his people and to their leaders, encouraging them to be faithful to his word. As baptized Catholics, we share in Jesus' ministry as priest, **prophet**, and king. One of the ways that we can share in his **prophetic** ministry is by calling the leaders of our government to protect the rights and dignity of all people. A good way to do this is by writing letters.

There are many reasons a Catholic child might like to write to the president. He or she might be concerned about the environment, youth crime, child labor, racial discrimination, hunger and poverty, the right to life of the unborn, and so on. Your child's letter will be read by a White House secretary who may refer it to the president. No matter who reads it, however, your child will receive a reply. Your child's letter can be neatly handwritten or typed. It should be short and to the point, with your child's concern clearly stated. Here is an example of a letter from a child concerned about the environment:

Your Name
Your Address

The Date

The President of the United States
White House Office
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

I am a 6th grader in the School of Religion at Most Holy Redeemer Catholic Parish in Evergreen Park, IL.

As a Catholic, I have learned about our responsibility to care for God's creation. With that in mind, I am very concerned about the depletion of the ozone layer. I don't want to grow up in a world that is unprotected from the harmful effects of direct sunlight.

I am writing this letter to ask you to help by increasing penalties for companies with harmful environmental practices. Please do whatever you can.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I will pray for you that God will guide you to do what you can to protect his creation for future generations.

Sincerely,

Your signature