

# CATHOLIC CONFERENCE OF OHIO

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## **Komen for the Cure**

At their meeting on January 20, 2011, the Bishops of Ohio discussed their respective positions on the participation of parishes and schools in the fundraising activities of Komen for the Cure.

The Bishops expressed strong, united support for research aimed at defeating breast cancer. However, some Catholic parishes and schools have inquired about lending institutional support to the fundraising efforts of Komen for the Cure. They raised concern about Komen's association with Planned Parenthood.

The Ohio Bishops reaffirmed the Church's commitment to human life and health, and to the dignity of the human person at all stages of development. They expressed a common desire to avoid even indirect support for research involving human embryos.

The Ohio Bishops agreed to direct Catholic parishes and schools away from fundraising for Komen for the Cure and toward activities and organizations that are fully consistent with Catholic moral teaching. Individual Catholics who want to contribute to Komen for the Cure locally can continue to do so on the basis of Komen's assurance that no local funds go to Planned Parenthood or to research involving embryonic stem cells.

*January 20, 2011*