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For Immediate Release
December 10, 2010

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Kentucky Catholic Bishops Announce New Executive Director of Catholic Conference of Kentucky

(Frankfort, KY) The Roman Catholic Bishops of Kentucky have appointed Rev. Patrick D. Delahanty as the Executive Director of the Catholic Conference of Kentucky. Father Delahanty has been serving as Acting Director after the retirement of Robert Castagna in September of 2010.

Ordained in 1969, Father Delahanty has more than 30 years experience in pastoral ministry, social services, and advocacy. He served as associate pastor, pastor, or sacramental moderator for 12 parishes in the Archdiocese and as director of the Migration and Refugee Services for Catholic Charities from 1988 – 2000. Most recently Fr. Delahanty was the associate director for Catholic Conference of Kentucky, and he is the chair and one of the original founders of the Kentucky Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty.

Fr. Delahanty, 67, is a native of Louisville who attended Trinity High School before transferring to St. Thomas Seminary. He earned his bachelor's degree in philosophy from St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore and a master's degree in community development from the University of Louisville.

Fr. Delahanty has won many awards for his advocacy and commitment for social justice, among them the 1998 Abolitionist of the Year by the National Coalition to Abolish the Death Penalty, the Rights Enforcer Award by the Kentucky Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers and the Rosa Parks Award from the Kentucky Department of Public Advocacy.

In announcing the appointment on behalf of the bishops of Kentucky, Archbishop Joseph Kurtz said, "Fr. Delahanty has worked tirelessly to advocate for the social and moral issues that are consistent with Catholic social teaching and critical to the common good. His experience in Frankfort is a valuable asset. We appreciate Fr. Delahanty's generosity in accepting this appointment and look forward to working with him to continue to keep the Church's positions before the Commonwealth."

Father Delahanty will continue to serve as sacramental moderator for St. Augustine and St. Martin de Porres parishes in Louisville.

The Catholic Conference of Kentucky is the public policy arm of the state's four Roman Catholic Bishops.

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**Most Reverend
Joseph E. Kurtz, D.D.**
Archbishop of Louisville

**Most Reverend
Roger. J. Foys, D.D.**
Bishop of Covington

**Most Reverend
Ronald W. Gainer, D.D.**
Bishop of Lexington

**Most Reverend
William F. Medley, D.D.**
Bishop of Owensboro

Rev. Patrick Delahanty
Executive Director