



# Arizona Catholic Conference

Diocese of Gallup • Diocese of Phoenix • Diocese of Tucson

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## **ARIZONA BISHOPS ENCOURAGE YES VOTE IN SUPPORT OF PROPOSITION 102, THE MARRIAGE AMENDMENT**

PHOENIX (September 4, 2008) The Bishops of the Catholic Conference of Arizona, in a pastoral statement released today, are encouraging voters to vote yes this November 4 on Proposition 102, which would amend the Arizona Constitution by providing a legal definition of marriage as being between one man and one woman.

The Most Rev. Thomas J. Olmsted, Bishop of Phoenix and Apostolic Administrator of Gallup, and the Most Rev. Gerald F. Kicanas, Bishop of Tucson, support Proposition 102 and are asking the support of Catholics in their respective dioceses. The proposed amendment to the Arizona Constitution that is promoted in Proposition 102 simply states, “Only a union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in this state.”

“Our support is based upon our Church’s teaching on the sanctity of marriage as a faithful, exclusive, lifelong union of a man and a woman joined in an intimate community of life and love,” the bishops say in their statement. “We believe Proposition 102 is in alignment with our deeply held moral beliefs regarding marriage.”

The full text of the pastoral statement from the Arizona Catholic Conference Bishops is available at [www.azcatholicconference.org](http://www.azcatholicconference.org).

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