



OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

JESSE WHITE • Secretary of State

Dear Spiritual Leader:

On November 11-13, faith communities in Illinois and across the nation will celebrate National Donor Sabbath, which raises awareness about the importance of organ and tissue donation. We are asking that you and your congregation participate in National Donor Sabbath by addressing the issue of organ and tissue donation.

Currently more than 123,000 people in the U.S. and approximately 5,000 people throughout Illinois are awaiting a lifesaving organ transplant. Each day an average of 21 people die while waiting. However, you and your congregation can help to change this statistic.

Our office maintains the Illinois Organ/Tissue Donor Registry. This registry ensures that those who want to donate can give total consent, saving hundreds of lives. Our mission is to provide information and encourage Illinoisans to join the registry.

As you know, the faith community makes a significant and lasting difference in the lives of countless individuals. Your observance of National Donor Sabbath is a great way to continue to make a difference and save lives. If you wish to participate, there are free materials available including bulletin inserts, posters and brochures to share with your congregations. Speakers and staff are also available to provide an information table or address your place of worship. To request materials, speakers or information about this event, please contact Karen Kohnke at 217-782-6258.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jesse White".

JESSE WHITE
Secretary of State