



WISCONSIN CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

OUR CALL AS

CATHOLIC CITIZENS

Politics, for its part, should always be understood not as an appropriation of power, but as the “highest form of charity”, and thus of service to one’s neighbor within a local or national community. - Pope Francis



Catholic Social Teaching (CST) helps to discern which public policies and politicians best embody a respect for human dignity and the common good. This is especially important at election time.

As the U.S. bishops said in November 2023, “On these often complex matters, it is the laity’s responsibility to form their consciences and grow in the virtue of prudence to approach the many and varied issues of the day with the mind of Christ.” To form our consciences, the following questions can help Catholics discern who best embodies the principles of CST:

Where does a candidate stand on:

- protecting **human life** from conception to natural death?
- preserving the state ban on **abortion, assisted suicide, euthanasia, and the death penalty**?
- upholding the innate equality, dignity, and complementarity of **male and female**?
- protecting **marriage** as the lifelong union of one man and one woman?
- respecting the **family** and **parents** as the primary educators of their children?
- providing resources to vulnerable **women and children**?
- protecting **religious freedom** at home and abroad?
- eliminating **violence**, whether by guns, war, terrorism, torture, abuse, or trafficking?
- assuring basic support for **people living in poverty**, domestically and internationally?
- treating all **migrants and refugees** with dignity and respect?
- eliminating **racism**?
- increasing access to **housing, healthcare, and education**?
- upholding the **dignity of work** and the rights of workers?
- preserving our **environment** and natural resources?
- and all that promotes **human dignity** and the **common good**?



We encourage you to **LEARN MORE** about Faithful Citizenship



CST does not neatly fit into party platforms. Rather, it reflects ethical principles that can unite all people. As faithful Catholics and American citizens, we are all called to participate in public life with the mind of Christ.

Issued 2024
wisconsincatholic.org