

a revolution of tenderness

A Pope Francis 2016 Election Voter Guide

“The Gospel tells us constantly to risk a face-to-face encounter with others, with their physical presence which challenges us, with their pain and their pleas, with their joy which infects us in our close and continuous interaction. The Son of God, by becoming flesh, summoned us to a revolution of tenderness.”—Pope Francis

Why a Pope Francis Election Guide?

Pope Francis says that a “good Catholic mettle in politics” to serve the common good. This guide isn’t an attempt to promote a partisan agenda, but Jesus’s Gospel of love, justice, and mercy in the public sphere.

Immigrants & Refugees

Our immigration system is categorically immoral. It separates families, provides patchwork solutions, and furthers injustice. Amidst global violence, we can’t simply close our borders, but open our communities to those who suffer.

Life & Creation

The dignity of every person, particularly the vulnerable and excluded, is the Church’s foundational political concern. So we fight against that anything that degrades life, including abortion, euthanasia, war, the death penalty, euthanasia, human trafficking, torture, and environmental degradation.

The Environment

Pope Francis reminds us that living simply, protecting creation, and addressing climate change is a response to God’s ancient request that we be good stewards of all that God has given and entrusted to us: clean air, fresh water and fruits of the harvest.

The Economy

Pope Francis says we must say “no” to an economy of exclusion and inequality. “Money must serve, not rule!” Francis says. So we stand for a just minimum wage, equal pay for women, strong family leave laws, protection of labor rights, and strong and effective welfare and anti-hunger programs.

Racial Justice

Racism is very much alive in our nation, and even in our churches. Individual and structural racism is tearing at the very fabric of our nation. It’s cloaked in seemingly different and benign issues such as tax codes, school districts, the criminal justice system, and the allocation of federal resources. We must address it everywhere.

Global Peacemaking

We continue to struggle with large-scale conflicts throughout the globe. We must not ignore the suffering in these nations. Yet there have been notable, effective, and sustainable peacemaking practices developed which offer us a great deal of hope.

Religious Freedom

Though hate and fear of religious difference has dominated much of today’s political rhetoric, we remain committed to preserving that freedom of religion and conscience. As Americans, we are called to respect people of all faiths or no faith. We are particularly called to protect the persecuted Muslims in our midst.