

FAITHFUL CITIZENSHIP 2022

In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue and participation in political life is a moral obligation.
Faithful Citizenship

Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Catholic Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States (2019) (faithfulcitizenship.org), discusses the moral dimensions of public policies and the responsibility that all Catholics share to form their consciences in light of their faith.

As the Catholic bishops of Wisconsin, we urge you to exercise your fundamental right to vote, but equally important, to become actively engaged in the life of your community. Bring to bear all the wisdom and experience that Catholic social teaching and our faith have to offer. Ask yourself and those who govern our nation, “Does this social program, economic plan, or public policy respect the dignity of the person, created in the image and likeness of God? Does it further the common good?”

The questions on the right are intended to help guide you in your efforts to make moral and prudential decisions about candidates and public policies. Please use them when contacting candidates for local and state public office.

To obtain more information on Catholic social teaching, public policy issues, and ideas for engaging *Faithful Citizenship*, please contact the Wisconsin Catholic Conference (608-257-0004) or your local diocesan office at the number below:

- Green Bay Living Justice: 920-272-8321
- La Crosse Ministries and Social Concerns: 608-791-0161
- Madison Human Life and Dignity: 608-821-3002
- Milwaukee Dignity of the Human Person & Social Justice Ministry: 414-758-2286
- Superior Ecclesial Ministries & Diocesan Consultation: 715-394-0204

Candidate Questions

Every Human Life Is Created in God’s Image and Is Sacred

Where does the candidate stand on:

- Protecting human life from conception to natural death?
- Preserving state limits on abortion?
- Preserving the state ban on assisted suicide and euthanasia?
- Prohibiting research that uses aborted fetal parts or human embryos?
- Banning the cloning of human embryos?
- Addressing and eliminating racism?
- Treating all refugees and immigrants with dignity and respect?
- Ensuring that the state protects religious liberty and freedom of conscience for all?

The Family Is the Domestic Church

Where does the candidate stand on:

- Protecting the fundamental understanding of marriage as the lifelong and faithful union of one man and one woman?
- Increasing support for pregnant women in need?
- Respecting parents as the first and primary educators of their children?
- Expanding educational choice for all families?
- Expanding tax incentives for families that utilize private schools?
- Allowing a state tax credit for adoption expenses?

God Has a Special Love for the Poor and Vulnerable; Workers Collaborate in the Development of God’s Creation

Where does the candidate stand on:

- Increasing the state minimum wage to keep pace with inflation?
- Assuring basic support for people living in poverty?
- Maintaining access to health care for persons with low-income?
- Increasing funding for safe and affordable housing?
- Providing treatment instead of incarceration to non-violent drug and alcohol users?
- Supporting the right of workers to organize collectively?

Respect for the Creator Is Shown by Our Care for His Creation

Where does the candidate stand on:

- Supporting farmers and business owners who implement environmentally sound management practices?
- Promoting conservation and alternative, renewable energy sources?
- Protecting our state’s natural resources?

Wisconsin Voter Information

MyVote Wisconsin Website

MyVote Wisconsin (myvote.wi.gov/en-us) is the State of Wisconsin's official source for voting. There you can register to vote, check your voter registration status, find your polling place, see what's on your ballot, request an absentee ballot, and check provisional ballot status. For additional information, you can also call the Election Commission's Help Desk at 608-261-2028, Toll-Free 866-VOTE-WIS (8683-947), or email Elections@wi.gov.

To confirm that you are on the pre-printed poll list at your designated polling station, find and contact your municipal clerk at myvote.wi.gov/My-Municipal-Clerk.

Absentee Voting

Registered Wisconsin voters may request an absentee ballot, but must first verify that they are registered to vote. This can be done at myvote.wi.gov/en-us/Vote-Absentee-By-Mail. If you are not registered or your name or address has changed, you will need to register or update your registration before requesting an absentee ballot (members of the military do not need to be registered to request an absentee ballot). Please allow sufficient time to both confirm registration and request an absentee ballot.

Voter Photo ID Required

A photo ID is now required to receive a ballot in all regular and special elections. To learn if you have the right photo ID, how to get a free state ID card for voting, and what exceptions there are to the new law, visit bringit.wi.gov.

Voter Registration Drive

For those organizing voter registration drives, please contact your municipal clerk for guidance at myvote.wi.gov/My-Municipal-Clerk.



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