



ROMAN CATHOLIC
**DIOCESE
OF CHARLESTON**

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Dear Brothers in Christ,

On Tuesday, Nov. 3, South Carolinians will enter polling stations for the 2020 general election. We will vote for those who may hold political office in our state and Washington, D.C., for the next two years or longer.

- [Click here to find your local polling station](#)
- [Click here to view your sample ballot](#)

As Catholics, we have the benefit of the Church's Magisterium endowed upon her by Christ, which assists us in understanding the natural, moral law as it relates to specific issues. We have an obligation as Catholics also to be correctly informed and educated by the Church's teaching so that we may vote with our consciences.

Because of our faith, we have much to bring to public discussions on critically important issues. We can offer a consistent moral framework as a compelling alternative to the often-incoherent categories of "liberal and conservative," "left and right," and other political labels.

Through involvement with appropriate political activities, parishes and other Catholic organizations can play a vital role in helping their members respond to the baptismal call of faithful citizenship.

The links below offer guidelines for pastors and other community leaders as they discern how best to stimulate political responsibility in their communities in a manner that is principled and nonpartisan.

- [Simply Catholic Voter Guide](#)
- [Political Activities Guidelines / Lineamientos de Actividades Políticas](#)
- [2020 Election Year Guidelines for Catholic Parishes and Organizations / 2020 directrices para el año de elecciones para las parroquias y organizaciones católicas](#)

The Diocese of Charleston authorizes parishes to use only materials provided by the diocese, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops ([USCCB](#)) and the South Carolina Catholic Conference. Later this year, the S.C. Catholic Conference will release a voter guide comparing the two major presidential candidates, Donald J. Trump and Joseph R. Biden, in light of Catholic social teaching.

For more information, visit charlestdiocese.org/south-carolina-catholic-conference/your-vote, or contact Michael F. Acquilano, Secretariat of Communications and Public Affairs, 843-261-0535 or macquilano@charlestdiocese.org.