

# I Pledge

As a faithful Catholic, I pledge to do the following:

Register and exercise my right to vote.

Acknowledge my moral obligation to learn about the candidates and their positions.

Inform my conscience about the moral teachings of the Catholic Church when voting for political candidates (Go to [catholicsvotecatholic.com](http://www.catholicsvotecatholic.com)).

Reject candidates who do not respect the sanctity of life, especially the helpless and the weakest members of our human family—unborn children.

Place my loyalty to my Christian Faith before any political party affiliation.

Pray with perseverance for a deeper respect for human life in our society, and for the election of righteous men and women of faith to lead our nation.

Never sacrifice principle. Candidates may take different positions on public policy issues requiring Catholics to use prudential judgment, guided by the moral and social teachings of the Church, but I will never sacrifice principle by voting for a candidate who supports abortion, euthanasia, same sex marriage, embryo-destructive research and cloning which are intrinsically evil.

Be salt and light to my loved ones, friends, and co-workers by speaking out, informing others about the moral consequences of their vote.

Vote for the candidate who will limit the evil and do less harm. Sometimes our choices are difficult. It is morally acceptable to vote for the candidate who will do less harm. In choosing to limit the evil, I am choosing a good.

Signed

Go To:

[www.catholicsvotecatholic.com](http://www.catholicsvotecatholic.com)

Go To:

[www.catholicsvotecatholic.com](http://www.catholicsvotecatholic.com)

To vote as a Catholic means to inform ourselves of the teachings of the Church, in this case, to learn the Catholic moral principles of voting responsibly and to act accordingly in the voting booth.

“Candidates are supposed to advocate policies that advance the common good and the dignity of the human person. A candidate who advocates policies that violate those fundamental principles should not be elected to public office, because he or she violates the purpose of public office.” **Fr. Frank Pavone**, Priests for Life

“We sin if we support ‘pro-choice’ candidates without a truly proportionate reason for doing so – that is, grave enough to outweigh our obligation to end the killing of the unborn.” **Archbp. Charles Chaput**,  
*Render Unto Caesar*

“We share in the good and evil of those we place in office. The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches that, although ‘sin is a personal act, we have a responsibility for the sins committed by others when we cooperate in them.” **Fr. John Corapi, S.O.L.T.**

“The care of human life and happiness and not their destruction, is the first and only legitimate object of good government.” **Thomas Jefferson**

**Catholic Coalition of New Mexico**  
is a 501 [c] [4] non-profit organization

We appreciate your support and donations.  
Our annual membership fee is \$35.00  
Checks made out to:  
CCNM, P.O. Box 905, Belen, NM 87002  
505.353.1773

# THE CATHOLIC VOTE

THE  
CATHOLIC  
VOTE  
**IT MATTERS**

**YOUR FAITH!**  
**YOUR CONSCIENCE!**  
**YOUR VOTE!**



**Catholic Coalition  
of  
New Mexico**



# Why Your Vote Matters

Voter Guides at [www.catholicsvotecatholic.com](http://www.catholicsvotecatholic.com)



**“I feel the greatest destroyer of peace today is abortion.”**

*Mother Teresa*

Catholics represent 24% of the U.S. population. This means 1 out of every four Americans profess to be Catholic. While it appears like the Catholic vote may play an important part in the election of candidates to high office, there is no “Catholic vote” according to John White of the Catholic University of America in Washington, D.C.

Why is that? Because Catholics do not vote as a “bloc”. There has been a wide swing of Catholic

voters over the past few decades. Catholics vote in large numbers for candidates of both major parties. But the current trend is that Catholics, whatever party they belong to, are voting in larger percentages for candidates whose positions are closer to their values and beliefs as Catholics. This is a good trend for the country. A very large majority of Catholics believe the country is in a crisis of declining morality. (Catholic Voter Project, Crisis Magazine) While there continues to be a large “swing vote” among them, more Catholics are voting for candidates who more closely support the teachings of their Church even if such candidates are outside their party.

Since their comprehensive statement, *Living the Gospel of Life*, was published in 1998, the U.S. Bishops have instructed their flock “to embrace their citizenship not merely as a duty and privilege, but as an opportunity meaningfully to participate in building the culture of life. Every voice counts. “

Every Catholic voice truly counts and our vote really matters! Let’s discuss why your vote, in conformity with the moral teachings of the Church, really does matter for the future of our families and our country.

## Elections Have Consequences

Over the next four years, the President and U.S. Congress we send to Washington next January will most likely nominate and confirm two new Supreme Court Justices. While the balance of the current Supreme Court has shifted away from extreme judicial activism, thanks to the confirmation of the latest two Catholic jurists to join the High Court, the majority on the Court continue to protect legalized abortion and struck down sodomy laws in the Lawrence vs. Texas case, decided in 2003.

Over the coming years cases involving very serious issues dividing our country that include same sex marriage, euthanasia, destructive research on human embryos, adoption rights, and abortion will likely make their way into the Federal system, and ultimately, the Supreme Court. Hundreds of vacant Federal judgeships are currently being held up by Congress for political reasons, tying up serious cases for months, even years.



**Two U.S. Supreme Court Justices are likely to be named in the next 4 years**

### Pro-life, Pro-Family Gains and Potential Losses

There is a real threat to our civil and religious liberties if the Freedom of Choice Act is passed by a pro-abortion

President and Congress. FOCA will wipe out all state laws on abortion restrictions and establish unlimited abortion as the law of all 50 states.

The Hyde Amendment which prevented most abortions from being federally funded through Medicare could be eliminated.

Federal funding for embryo-destructive research would be proposed again by a liberal pro-abortion Congress and signed by a pro-abortion President.

Visit our website: [www.catholicsvotecatholic.com](http://www.catholicsvotecatholic.com)

A liberal President could institute policies forcing health care professionals to provide services that violate their consciences.

The Mexico City Policy bars U.S. funds for abortions overseas. A pro-abortion President could issue an executive order (as it’s already been done before) to restore such funding at taxpayer expense.

A pro-abortion President would end U.S. opposition to continued United Nations efforts to impose abortion “rights” on the over 100 countries that still significantly restrict abortion.

An anti-life administration would defend assisted suicide as a legitimate medical procedure.

## Presidential Appointments Affecting Life Issues

Every President fills over 7,000 positions in the White House, federal departments and agencies, and advisory panels. This figure does not include Judicial Branch appointments.

### The Veto-Proof Congress

Even if a pro-life President was elected in November, generally, a “veto-proof” Congress is one where the party in opposition to the President controls at least 67 seats in the Senate and 290 in the House. In effect a veto proof Congress if left unchecked by the veto power of the President could pass legislation that are anti-life and anti-family.

### Defense of Marriage Act

The definition of marriage between one man and one woman is under attack in some states. An anti-life and anti-family President and majority in Congress would fight to rescind the federal DOMA Act and confirm Judges who would strike down traditional marriage in federal courts.