



PENNSYLVANIA  
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# Four Principles of Catholic Social Teaching\*

The central and enduring themes of Catholic social teaching are organized under four principles that provide a moral framework for decisions in public life.

## The Dignity of the Human Person



Human life is sacred. The dignity of the human person is the foundation of a moral vision for society. Direct attacks on innocent persons are never morally acceptable. In our society, the gravest example is abortion. Euthanasia, assisted suicide, human cloning, in vitro fertilization and the destruction of embryos for research are others. Protecting the dignity of life

also includes overcoming poverty, ending use of the death penalty, and opposing racism, torture, unjust war, human trafficking and all activities that contribute to the “throwaway culture” identified by Pope Francis.

## The Common Good



The common good is achieved when social conditions allow people to reach their fulfillment more fully and easily. It upholds the fundamental right to life, which makes all other rights possible. It asserts the right to food, shelter, education, employment, health care, housing, freedom of religion and conscience, and family life. It requires an economy that serves people,

not the other way around. It calls on employers to uphold the dignity and rights of workers by offering productive work, decent and just wages, adequate security in their old age, the choice of whether to organize and join unions, and the opportunity for legal status for immigrant workers. Workers should contribute a fair day’s work for a fair day’s pay, treat employers and co-workers with respect, and contribute to the common good. This principle requires we protect and care for all of God’s creation, especially the most vulnerable among us, and the earth, our common home.

## Subsidiarity



The human person is social. The family is the fundamental building block of society, based on marriage between a man and a woman, a sanctuary for creation and nurturing of children. Policies and programs should defend, strengthen and respect this foundational unit and uphold parents’ rights and responsibilities to care for and educate their children.

Further, every person and association has a right and duty to actively shape society and promote the well-being of all, especially the poor and vulnerable. Subsidiarity means that society’s larger institutions should not overwhelm or interfere with smaller or local ones. These larger institutions are obliged, however, to protect human dignity and meet human needs when smaller institutions cannot adequately do so.

## Solidarity



We are one human family, despite our national, racial, ethnic, economic and ideological differences, called to love our neighbor as ourselves. We must work to eradicate poverty, disease and racism, and welcome immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers who are seeking employment, safety, education and a better life for their families. Solidarity requires preferential

concern for the poor. A basic moral test of any society is how it treats those who are most vulnerable. This preferential option for the poor and vulnerable includes all who are marginalized—unborn children, persons with disabilities, the elderly and terminally ill, victims of injustice and oppression, and immigrants.

*\*Adapted from Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, Nos. 44-56, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2015.*

[www.pacatholic.org](http://www.pacatholic.org)



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# Thank you for reviewing our Voter Guide!

We thank each candidate for their consideration and time responding. PCC made several attempts to contact all candidates through email and phone calls. All responses were the exact answers we received.

If you would like more information about candidates in your diocese, here are their websites.

## Statewide

### U.S. Senate

- D Bob Casey, Jr. .... <https://bobcasey.com>
- R Dave McCormick..... <https://www.davemccormickpa.com>
- L John C. Thomas ..... [bit.ly/3XEOWGo](http://bit.ly/3XEOWGo)
- G Leila Hazou..... <https://www.leilaforsenate.com>
- C Marty Selker ..... <https://www.martyselkerforsenate.com>

### Auditor General

- R Tim DeFoor..... <https://www.defoor4pa.com>
- D Malcolm Kenyatta ..... <https://malcolmkenyatta.com>
- L Reece Smith ..... <https://www.votereece.com>
- A Eric Anton..... (No Website)
- C Bob Goodrich..... (No Website)

### Attorney General

- D Eugene DePasquale..... <https://www.depasqualeforag.com>
- R Dave Sunday ..... <https://www.davesundayforag.com>
- L Robert Cowburn..... <https://cowburnforag.com>
- G Richard Weiss..... <https://twitter.com/RichardLWeiss>
- C Justin Magill ..... <https://seventy.org/2024-voter-guide/attorney-general/justin-magill>
- F Eric Settle ..... <https://ericsettle4ag.com>

### Treasurer

- R Stacy Garrity ..... <https://www.garrityforpa.com>
- D Erin McClelland ..... <https://erinmcclelland.com>
- L Nickolas Ciesielski..... <https://nickcforpa.com>
- C Troy Bowman ..... (No Website)
- F Chris Foster..... <https://chrisfosterfortreasurer.com>

**Key:** R: Republican • D: Democratic • L: Libertarian • C: Constitution • G: Green • F: Forward • A: American Solidarity Party

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# Erie Diocese

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## House

1	D	Patrick J. Harkins.....	<a href="https://www.pahouse.com/Harkins/">https://www.pahouse.com/Harkins/</a>
2	D	Robert E. Merski .....	<a href="https://www.pahouse.com/Merski/">https://www.pahouse.com/Merski/</a>
2	R	Matthew L. Strupczewski ..	<a href="https://mattstrupforstaterep.com/">https://mattstrupforstaterep.com/</a>
3	D	Ryan Bizarro.....	<a href="https://www.teambizzpa.com/">https://www.teambizzpa.com/</a>
3	R	Micah S. Goring .....	<a href="https://micahforpa.com/">https://micahforpa.com/</a>
4	D	Joseph R. Cancilla .....	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/cancillajoe/">https://www.facebook.com/cancillajoe/</a>
4	R	Jake Banta .....	<a href="https://www.repanta.com/">https://www.repanta.com/</a>
6	D	Mike Walker.....	<a href="https://mikewalkerpa.com/">https://mikewalkerpa.com/</a>
6	R	Bradley T. Roae.....	<a href="https://www.reproae.com/">https://www.reproae.com/</a>
7	R	Parke H. Wentling .....	<a href="https://www.repwentling.com/">https://www.repwentling.com/</a>
17	R	Timothy R. Bonner .....	<a href="https://www.repbonner.com/">https://www.repbonner.com/</a>
63	D	Pat Ritchie.....	<a href="https://www.patforpa.com/">https://www.patforpa.com/</a>
63	R	Joshua K. Bashline .....	<a href="https://joshbashlineforstaterepresentative.com/">https://joshbashlineforstate representative.com/</a>
64	R	R. Lee James .....	<a href="https://www.repjames.com/">https://www.repjames.com/</a>
64	C	Ron Johnson.....	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/ronjohnsonforsenate/">https://www.facebook.com/ ronjohnsonforsenate/</a>
65	R	Kathy L. Rapp .....	<a href="https://www.reprapp.com/">https://www.reprapp.com/</a>
65	D	Erin Willman .....	<a href="https://bit.ly/ErinWillman">bit.ly/ErinWillman</a>
66	R	Brian A. Smith .....	<a href="https://www.repsmith.com/">https://www.repsmith.com/</a>
67	D	Rajeev N. Pradhan .....	<a href="https://www.rajforchange.com/">https://www.rajforchange.com/</a>
67	R	Martin T. Causer.....	<a href="https://www.repcauser.com/">https://www.repcauser.com/</a>
73	R	Dallas P. Kephart.....	<a href="https://www.repkephart.com/">https://www.repkephart.com/</a>
75	R	Micheal J. Armanini.....	<a href="https://www.repmikearmanini.com/">https://www.repmikearmanini.com/</a>

## Senate

25	R	Cris Dush.....	<a href="https://senatordush.com/">https://senatordush.com/</a>
25	D	William McGill .....	<a href="https://bit.ly/WilliamMcGill">bit.ly/WilliamMcGill</a>
41	R	Joe Pittman .....	<a href="https://senatorpittman.com/">https://senatorpittman.com/</a>
49	R	Dan Laughlin .....	<a href="https://www.senatorlaughlin.com/">https://www.senatorlaughlin.com/</a>
49	D	Jim Wertz .....	<a href="https://jimwertz.org">https://jimwertz.org</a>

## Congressional

15	R	Glenn Thompson .....	<a href="https://thompson.house.gov/">https://thompson.house.gov/</a>
15	D	Zach Womer.....	<a href="https://www.womeforpa.com/">https://www.womeforpa.com/</a>
16	R	Mike Kelly.....	<a href="https://kelly.house.gov/">https://kelly.house.gov/</a>
16	D	Preston Nouri .....	<a href="https://www.prestonforpa.com/">https://www.prestonforpa.com/</a>

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# House Races

District	County	Candidate	Party	Do you support utilizing public dollars to support agencies that deliver pregnancy support?	Do you support Pennsylvania's biggest statewide school choice program: the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC)?	What, if any, changes would you make to combat recidivism within the criminal justice system?	How can the state best combat human trafficking?	What are your ideas for combatting a lack of affordable housing?	How do you think the immigration system should be reformed and streamlined?	Attacks against members of faith communities continue to rise. What can PA do to protect religious liberty?
63	Clarion County	Joshua Kent Bashline	R	Yes	Yes	More outreach and programs for low-level offenders. Tougher punishments for serious offenders. Keep the two groups separated.	Investment and information. Empower law enforcement.	Creating a better business environment in PA. Invest in workforce development. Fight inflation. The market will respond by creating more housing.	Security first before anything else.	Support law enforcement in general. Ensure elected officials and the state support our constitutional right to religious liberty.

# Row Office Races

Row Office	County	Candidate	Party	Do you support utilizing public dollars to support agencies that deliver pregnancy support?	Do you support Pennsylvania's biggest statewide school choice program: the Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC)?	What, if any, changes would you make to combat recidivism within the criminal justice system?	How can the state best combat human trafficking?	What are your ideas for combatting a lack of affordable housing?	How do you think the immigration system should be reformed and streamlined?	Attacks against members of faith communities continue to rise. What can PA do to protect religious liberty?
Treasurer	Statewide Republican	Stacy Garrity	R	Yes	Yes	This sounds like a task ideally suited to the Church.	Protect the U.S. border and enforce immigration law.	Reduce regulations. Streamline permitting and inspections processes. Hold inspecting agencies accountable.	I believe that God has established the nations, and it is good for nations to protect their borders. The power to do that is rightly delegated to the federal government.	If the Church is boldly preaching the message of Christ in love, attacks are bound to happen. When they do, the law should be applied equally.







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