

Be Informed, Pray, Vote

General Election Day is on November 8, and early voting begins on October 11. While this election cycle is not a Presidential election year, there are many important races on this year's ballot. For example, Nebraska will be deciding its next Governor and Attorney General, as well as voting on U.S. House of Representative members, State Legislature members, and many other members of local public offices.

As Catholics, we are called to bear the light of Christ in the public square. This includes exercising our right to vote. To help prepare you and form your conscience for this election cycle, we want to encourage the following resources:

First, if you are not registered to vote, please register. The Nebraska Catholic Conference has a bulletin insert resources which explains how to register, eligibility for registration, and important dates to remember. You can also directly visit the Nebraska Secretary of State's website to register: www.nebraska.gov/apps-sos-voter-registration.

Second, take time to inform your conscience. We recommend the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops document entitled *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility from the Catholic Bishops of the United States.* This document is a concise and informative overview of major themes and issues related to participation in political life. The Nebraska Catholic Conference also has additional resources at www.NEcatholic.org/election2022.

Third, we invite you to check out where the candidates stand on the issues by visiting www.NebraskaCatholicVoter.org. This resource provides candidate information for state and federal legislative races, the governor's race, and state board of education races.

Finally, please pray. Pray about how you will apply your Catholic values to the candidates and issues you will see on this election cycle's ballot. Pray for all the candidates who have made the decision to run for office, that if elected they would serve the common good according to God's design. Pray for our local communities, our state, and our nation as we continue to maintain and strengthen the gift of our democracy.

Thank you for being an informed and responsible Catholic—together we can bear the Light of Christ in the public square!