



**Forming Consciences for
Faithful Citizenship**

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- **Conscience only works when we inform it, when we learn the moral truth.**
 - **The Church helps us to do that through the Magisterium...giving us the Catechism, which tells us what the moral issues are and why they are, based on Scripture.**
 - **Your conscience is the voice of truth, not your feelings – it is the activity of your intellect judging actions as right or wrong. Feelings and opinions need to be governed by conscience in order to be in harmony with the truth.**
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CATHOLIC TEACHING

Catechism of the Catholic Church #1798

Everyone must avail himself of the means to correctly form his conscience.

To learn more, watch the excellent video by Fr. Chris Alar, MIC:

www.divinemercyplus.org/videos/voting

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- **Pay taxes**
 - **Defend one's country**
 - **Exercise the right to vote**
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CATHOLIC TEACHING

Catechism of the Catholic Church #2240

Submission to authority and co-responsibility for the common good make it morally obligatory to pay taxes, to defend one's own country, and exercise the right to vote.

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The 3 Non-Negotiables

- Sanctity of life
 - Sanctity of marriage between a man and a woman
 - Religious freedom
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CATHOLIC TEACHING

There are many important issues to be considered when voting. **The 3 above are non-negotiable.** All the rest are negotiable.

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- What if all of the candidates are unworthy?
 - Choose the one who is in most support of the non-negotiables.
 - We are not voting to canonize these candidates, but to give them temporary power to **DO THE WILL OF GOD.**
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CATHOLIC TEACHING

How a candidate stands with respect to the non-negotiables (protect human life, uphold the sanctity of marriage between a man and a woman, preserve religious liberty) determines his/her worthiness to hold office.

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