

Pray for 2016 Election Year

God of Life and Compassion, you have given us the gift of a free country and the gift of citizenship. As Catholics, you have given us the responsibility to participate in working with our country and allowing the Christian values of the Gospel to lead us in all of our actions.

During this year of election, may we take our social responsibility to register to vote, to pray, to study the issues and the candidates and then vote from our Gospel values this November. May our choices take into account the poor, vulnerable and our common home. We pray for our elected leaders so that wisdom and prudence may give them the strength to make decisions that are right and true. We pray for our future leaders and let them know our concerns for justice. We ask the Spirit of God to be with all of us during this year of election. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

By Sr. Rose Therese Nolta, SSpS

Election Prayer

O God of justice and compassion. You have called us to use our gifts to your glory. You challenge us to claim Your power and presence in us. Today we lift up the gift of citizenship that we have been given in the United States. We give thanks for the opportunity to participate in this democracy. We know that You expect us to use the gifts You have given us.

We will step forth in faith. We will become faithful citizens. We will use our gifts. We will study the issues. We will study Your word and the guidance You have given us. We will pray for our democracy, our current elected leaders, and our future leaders. We will seek to support the candidates that we think best reflect our values. We will use our power. We will claim our gifts. We will vote on Tuesday, November 8. And when the elections are over, we will pledge to support those elected through prayer and regular communication of our concerns to them. Thank you God for your gifts and the opportunities you see before us. Amen.

By: National Interfaith Committee for Worker Justice Source: Education for Justice

Prayer For The Election Year

God of mercy, our nation is in a time of great transition. With all of the injustice and fear in our world today, we ask you to inspire us and guide us as we participate in the upcoming presidential elections. We seek a government that upholds and protects human rights and justice for all its citizens, regardless of race, class, gender, or religion. Move and inspire us by your presence among us in the most vulnerable tin our society. For their tears are your tears, their pain is your pain, their suffering is your suffering. In gratitude for the right to vote, we pray. Amen.

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Prayers of the Faithful for Election Year

A Message from the USCCB:

In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue; participation in the political process is a moral obligation. All believers are called to faithful citizenship, to become informed, active, and responsible participants in the political process... As we have said, "We encourage all citizens, particularly Catholics, to embrace their citizenship not merely as a duty and privilege, but as an opportunity [more fully] to participate in building the culture of life. Every voice matters in the public forum. Every vote counts. Every act of responsible citizenship is an exercise of significant individual power."

Intercessory Prayers for Upcoming Election

By: U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) Source: Education for Justice

For all citizens of the United States, that our participation in the upcoming election may lead to a world of greater justice and peace, *we pray to the Lord...*

For Catholics throughout our nation, that the values of our faith may guide us as we exercise our responsibility as voters, *we pray to the Lord...*

For the members of this community, that we may find ways to help build a world of greater respect for human life and human dignity, *we pray to the Lord...*

For those who serve in elected office, that they may lead with courage and wisdom, reflecting the Church's teaching that the moral test of our society is how the poor, the weak, and the vulnerable are faring, *we pray to the Lord...*

For those who are suffering from poverty and injustice, that our decisions this election year may lead to policies and programs that help them live in dignity, *we pray to the Lord...*

For parishioners who have been elected to public office, that they might use their offices to protect the unborn and promote the dignity of the poor and vulnerable, *we pray to the Lord...*

Others -- Sr. Rose Therese Nolta, SSpS

That as Catholics study the issues, they be guided by the Social Teachings of the Church and the values of the Gospel, we pray to the Lord.

That during this election year, we may pray for the candidates and all elected officials, we pray to the Lord.

That all voters may be watchful for the poor, vulnerable and the weakest of society, we pray to the Lord.

That we may pray for our country during this election year, that we may be Christian voices of truth, honesty and compassion, we pray to the Lord.