

Peace & Social Justice Resources

Elections & Voting Preparation 2020

Minnesota Secretary of State <https://www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/how-elections-work/precinct-caucuses/>
League of Women Voters <https://www.lwvmn.org/voting-information>

Suggestions for Reading/Reflection in Preparation for 2020 Nominations and Elections

Agriculture & Food

Care for Creation <https://www.mncatholic.org/advocacyarea/care-for-creation/>
<https://catholicclimatecovenant.org>
Environment <https://socialjusticeresourcecenter.org/cause/environment/>
Catholic Rural Life <https://catholicrurallife.org>
Food Security/Sustainable Agriculture <https://www.feedingamerica.org>

Business & Community Development

Trade Policy <https://networklobby.org/2020policyplatform/>
Poor and Vulnerable <https://www.mncatholic.org/advocacyarea/option-for-the-poor-and-vulnerable/>
Economic Justice <https://socialjusticeresourcecenter.org/cause/economic-justice/>

Civil, Human & Constitutional Rights

Combating Racism <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/racism/index.cfm>
Gender Inequality <https://socialjusticeresourcecenter.org/cause/gender-inequality/>
Equity in Criminal Justice <https://networklobby.org/2020policyplatform/>
Voting and Democracy <https://networklobby.org/issues/votinganddemocracy/>

Consumer Issues

Family Economic Stability <https://www.mncatholic.org/advocacyarea/marriage-and-family/>

Education

School Choice/Non-Public Pupil Aid <https://www.mncatholic.org/advocacyarea/education/>
Education System <https://socialjusticeresourcecenter.org/cause/education-system/>
MN Adult Education <https://centralmnabe.org>

Energy

Conserve, Educate, Inspire <https://www.catholicenergies.org>

Government Accountability to the Public

Faithful Citizenship <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship/index.cfm>
Access to Citizenship <https://networklobby.org/2020policyplatform/>
Access to Democracy <https://networklobby.org/2020policyplatform/>
Criminal Justice System <https://socialjusticeresourcecenter.org/cause/criminal-justice-system/>
Capital Punishment <https://socialjusticeresourcecenter.org/cause/capital-punishment/>

Health & Human Services

Human Life and Dignity <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/human-life-and-dignity/index.cfm>
<https://www.mncatholic.org/advocacyarea/healthcare/>
Child and Youth Protection <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/child-and-youth-protection/index.cfm>
Access to Healthcare <https://networklobby.org/2020policyplatform/>
Quality, Affordable Healthcare <https://networklobby.org/issues/healthcare/>
Housing <https://networklobby.org/issues/housing/>
Life and Bio-Ethics <https://www.mncatholic.org/advocacyarea/life-and-bioethics/>

Labor & Employment

Livable Income <https://networklobby.org/2020policyplatform/>
<https://networklobby.org/issues/income/>
Family-Friendly Workplaces <https://networklobby.org/2020policyplatform/>
<https://networklobby.org/issues/familyfriendlyworkplace/>
<https://www.mncatholic.org/advocacyarea/labor-and-economy/>

Media & Internet Issues

- Social Media <https://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/topics/religion-arts-and-culture/subtopics/internet-and-social-media#?fc=1>
- Journalism <https://berkeleycenter.georgetown.edu/topics/religion-arts-and-culture/subtopics/journalism#?fc=1>

National Security & International Policy

- Justice for Immigrants <https://justiceforimmigrants.org>
- US Dept Homeland Security <https://www.dhs.gov/immigration-statistics>
- Racial Justice <https://networklobby.org/2020policyplatform/>
- Immigration <https://networklobby.org/issues/immigration/>
<https://www.mncatholic.org/advocacyarea/migration/>

Natural Resources & the Environment

- Carbon Footprint <https://www.carbonfootprint.com>
- Climate Change <https://catholicrurallife.org/resources/education-and-action/faith-based-study-guide-on-climate-change/>
- Water Access <https://socialjusticeresourcecenter.org/cause/water-access/>

Public Safety & Crime Prevention

- Gun Violence <https://momsdemandaction.org>
<https://socialjusticeresourcecenter.org/?s=gun+violence>
- Domestic Abuse <https://socialjusticeresourcecenter.org/cause/domestic-abuse/>

Retirement Security

- Senior Hunger <https://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/senior-hunger-facts>

Tax & Budget Policy

- Moral Budget <https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2019/03/22/catholic-social-teaching-guides-advocates-push-moral-budget>
- Tax Justice <https://networklobby.org/2020policyplatform/>
<https://networklobby.org/issues/income/>
- Budget & Appropriations <https://networklobby.org/issues/budget/>

Transportation

- People Living Out of RVs <https://www.yesmagazine.org/democracy/2019/07/13/parking-cities-affordable-housing-rvs/>

Veterans Affairs

- Women Veterans Health Care <https://www.womenshealth.va.gov/WOMENSHEALTH/index.asp>

Local or Party Issues

- Religious Liberty <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/index.cfm>

CATHOLIC SOCIAL TEACHINGS

<https://www.cctwincities.org/education-advocacy/catholic-social-teaching/>
<http://www.usccb.org/beliefs-and-teachings/what-we-believe/catholic-social-teaching/index.cfm>

Catholic social teaching is based on and inseparable from our understanding of human life and human dignity. Every human being is created in the image of God and redeemed by Jesus Christ, and therefore is invaluable and worthy of respect as a member of the human family. Every person, from the moment of conception to natural death, has inherent dignity and a right to life consistent with that dignity. Human dignity comes from God, not from any human quality or accomplishment.

Our commitment to the Catholic social mission must be rooted in and strengthened by our spiritual lives. In our relationship with God we experience the conversion of heart that is necessary to truly love one another as God has loved us.

Human Dignity
Stewardship of Creation
Option for the Poor and Vulnerable
Promotion of Peace

Dignity of Work
Rights and Responsibilities
Role of Government

Community and the Common Good
Global Solidarity
Participation in Society

BENEDICTINE VALUES

<https://www.csbsju.edu/sju-campus-ministry/benedictine-values>

Our values are vital to our identity. These values undergird our work and are ways in which we strive to demonstrate to live as an example of God's love, and fit our Benedictine ethos. All of these values are paired with a quote from St. Benedict's Rule for Monasteries.

Awareness of God
Listening
Stability

Community Living
Moderation
Stewardship

Dignity of Work
Peace

Hospitality
Respect for Persons

Justice

Joint Religious Legislative Coalition

Interfaith Advocacy for Social Justice

Catholic Protestant Jewish Muslim

“How To Be An Effective Advocate”

Faithful Citizen’s Advocacy Guide:

Two Keys – Access: Your ability to talk to a legislator as someone you know. Credibility: Your believability on the subject you are discussing. Strategy: Gain access and protect credibility. How to Lobby: *Schedule meetings*: Come prepared to discuss one issue and bring written information to leave behind. Keep the meeting short; just long enough to voice your concern. *Write Letters*: Keep them brief and to the point. Keep them to one subject and avoid form letters. Neat, handwritten letters have the most impact. Be sure to include your name and address on the letter itself since envelopes sometimes get tossed. *Use the Phone*: But keep in mind it is sometimes harder to get legislators directly. Talk to the legislator’s staff. They often have better command of details and facts.

Meeting With Your Legislator:

Four Keys – Be Prepared; Be Respectful; Stay on Topic; and Leave Behind a Written Summary. Strategy: Schedule brief meetings right before key actions. Schedule longer, in-depth meetings during interim. After social pleasantries, get right to the topic. Make your case. Ask politely for action. Listen to the reply and state what you hear. Address any objections, if you can.

Calling Your Legislator:

Four Keys – Be brief; Be Timely; Rehearse; and Be prepared to leave a one-sentence message. Strategy: If you cannot say what you need to say within three minutes, write a letter.

Writing To Your Legislator:

Four Keys – Be brief; Be legible; Be polite; and Be timely. Strategy: Write the right legislator at the right time. You want your letter to reach a decision-maker right before they vote on the issue. Responding quickly to organizational alerts is crucial.

Writing Letters To The Editor:

Do: Respond directly to a recent article, editorial, letter, or local event. Be sure to reference the publication date and title of the article. Focus on a single issue. Keep it brief. Stick to the publisher’s word limit, usually 250 max, often less. Use verified facts. Start with a strong opening statement that establishes your position. Use plain language and personal stories. Look at other recently published letters to get an idea of what the publication looks for when deciding what to print.

Voter Information:

REGISTER TO VOTE *Who can vote in Minnesota* – You must be: A U.S. citizen; At least 18 years old on Election Day; A resident of Minnesota for 20 days; Finished with all parts of any felony sentence. You can vote while under guardianship unless a judge specifically has revoked your right to vote. You cannot vote if a court has ruled that you are legally incompetent.

ELECTION DAY VOTING *Where do I vote* – Polling Place Finder (pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us) Your Polling Place (where you vote, map and directions); Districts for your precinct (including maps); “Candidates on My Ballot” (candidates and questions on the ballot at your next election, when available). Entering your Zip Code on this site includes Minnesota’s 87 counties. *The 2020 Presidential Primary will be on March 3. The United States presidential election is on November 3, 2020.*

OTHER WAYS TO VOTE Vote early by mail; Vote early in person; Vote from military or aboard; Track your absentee ballot. In Minnesota, you can vote early with an absentee ballot starting 46 days before Election Day.

WHAT’S ON MY BALLOT The sample ballot shows a list of the candidates and ballot questions you’ll be voting on. Information is posted about 45 day before an election. Sample ballots is not available for all local elections. You may need to contact the local government (city, town, or school district) holding the election.

MINNESOTA LEGISLATORS

Who Represents Me?

<u>Zip Code: 56374</u>	Tim O'Driscoll (R) MN House –13B	651-296-7808	rep.tim.odriscoll@house.mn
	and 56377 Jeff Howe (R) MN Senate –13	651-296-2084	sen.jeff.howe@senate.mn
	Tom Emmer (R) U.S. House –6	763-241-6848	rep.tom.emmer@house.mn
	Amy Klobuchar (DFL) U.S. Senate	888-224-9043	sen.amy.klobuchar@senate.mn
	Tina Smith (DFL) U.S. Senate	651-221-1016	sen.tina.smith@senate.mn
<u>Zip Code: 56301</u>	Tama Theis (R) MN House –14A	651-296-6316	rep.tama.theis@house.mn
	Jerry Relph (R) MN Senate –14	651-296-6455	sen.jerry.relph@senate.mn
	Tom Emmer (R) U.S. House –6	763-241-6848	rep.tome.emmer@house.mn
	Amy Klobuchar (DFL) U.S. Senate	888-224-9043	sen.amy.klobuchar@senate.mn
	Tina Smith (DFL) U.S. Senate	651-221-1016	sen.tina.smith@senate.mn
<u>Zip Code: 56303</u>	Dan Wolgamott (DFL) MN House –14B	651-296-6612	rep.dan.wolgamott@house.mn
	and 56304 Jerry Relph (R) MN Senate –14	651-296-6455	sen.jerry.relph@senate.mn
	Tom Emmer (R) U.S. House –6	763-241-6848	rep.tom.emmer@house.mn
	Amy Klobuchar (DFL) U.S. Senate	888-224-9043	sen.amy.klobuchar@senate.mn
	Tina Smith (DFL) U.S. Senate	651-221-1016	sen.tina.smith@senate.mn
<u>Zip Code: 56308</u>	Paul Anderson (R) MN House –12B	651-296-4317	rep.paul.anderson@house.mn
	and 56352 Torrey Westrom (R) MN Senate –12	651-296-3826	sen.torrey.westrom@senate.mn
	and 56378 Collin C. Peterson (DFL) U.S. House –7	202-225-2165	rep.collin.peterson@house.mn
	Amy Klobuchar (DFL) U.S. Senate	888-224-9043	sen.amy.klobuchar@senate.mn
	Tina Smith (DFL) U.S. Senate	651-221-1016	sen.tina.smith@senate.mn
<u>Zip Code: 56320</u>	Lisa Demuth (R) MN House –13A	651-296-4373	rep.lisa.demuth@house.mn
	Jeff Howe (R) MN Senate –13	651-296-2084	sen.jeff.howe@senate.mn
	Tom Emmer (R) U.S. House –6	763-241-6848	rep.tom.emmer@house.mn
	Amy Klobuchar (DFL) U.S. Senate	888-224-9043	sen.amy.klobuchar@senate.mn
	Tina Smith (DFL) U.S. Senate	651-221-1016	sen.tina.smith@senate.mn
<u>Zip Code: 56329</u>	Shane Mekeland (R) MN House –15B	651-296-2451	rep.shane.mekeland@house.mn
	and 56379 Andrew Mathews (R) MN Senate –15	651-296-8075	sen.andrew.mathews@senate.mn
	Tom Emmer (R) U.S. House –6	763-241-6848	rep.tom.emmer@house.mn
	Amy Klobuchar (DFL) U.S. Senate	888-224-9043	sen.amy.klobuchar@senate.mn
	Tina Smith (DFL) U.S. Senate	651-221-1016	sen.tina.smith@senate.mn
<u>Zip Code: 55440</u>	Raymond Dehn (DFL) MN House –59B	651-296-8659	rep.raymond.dehn@house.mn
	Bobby Champion (DFL) MN House –59	651-296-9246	sen.bobby.champion@senate.mn
	Ilhan Omar (DFL) U.S. House –5	612-333-1272	rep.ilhan.omar@house.mn
	Amy Klobuchar (DFL) U.S. Senate	888-224-9043	sen.amy.klobuchar@senate.mn
	Tina Smith (DFL) U.S. Senate	651-221-1016	sen.tina.smith@senate.mn
<u>Zip Code: 55109</u>	Peter Fischer (DFL) MN House –43A	651-296-5363	rep.peter.fischer@house.mn
	Charles Wiger (DFL) MN Senate –43	651-296-6820	sen.charles.wiger@senate.mn
	Betty McCollum (DFL) U.S. House –4	651-224-9191	rep.betty.mccollum@house.mn
	Amy Klobuchar (DFL) U.S. Senate	888-224-9043	sen.amy.klobuchar@senate.mn
	Tina Smith (DFL) U.S. Senate	651-221-1016	sen.tina.smith@senate.mn

Minnesota State and Federal Elected Officials <https://www.gis.leg.mn/iMaps/districts/>

Minnesota County Websites <https://mn.gov/portal/government/local/counties/>

Minnesota City Websites <https://mn.gov/portal/government/local/cities/>
Minnesota Township Websites <https://mn.gov/portal/government/local/townships/>

Links

We provide links to other Web sites that we believe you will find useful or relevant. sbm.osb.org is not responsible for the privacy practices or the content of such Web sites.