EQUALLY SACRED SCORECARD

Colin Martinez Longmore
Colleen Ross
2020: Who We Elect Matters

“A good Catholic meddles in politics.”
—POPE FRANCIS

WHO WE ELECT MATTERS

NETWORK NUNS on the bus
THE VIRTUAL TOUR

#NunsOnTheBus  www.nunsontthebus.org  #NETWORKLobby
“Equally Sacred” Background

- Who we elect matters
- NETWORK’s multi-issue agenda
- Messaging and resources to reach voters
Equally Sacred Scorecard

**EQUALLY SACRED PRIORITIES FOR POLITICAL CANDIDATES**

In recent years, Pope Francis has provided explicit instruction on the many ways we are called to defend, promote, and protect the sacredness of life. In his writing and speaking, Pope Francis makes it clear: abortion is not the only issue that matters. Faith does not fit into political parties neatly. Still, we are called to engage in politics. This is no small fact. It requires us to be informed; to develop our conscience; to connect with like-minded people; and listen to those who think differently.

Here you will find a list of the areas Pope Francis names as “equally sacred” to the defense of the unborn.

We invite you to consider candidates for elected office based on all of the criteria listed below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Defense of the unborn is clear.</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Seeks to overturn Roe v. Wade</td>
<td>☐</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supports health-care and nutrition for pregnant women</td>
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<td>Equally sacred are those already born.</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>No</td>
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<tr>
<td>Supports families, advocates for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors and Native American tribes, opposes racism, xenophobia, and discrimination against the LGBTQ+ community and people with disabilities, opposes the death penalty</td>
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General Audience - June 3, 2020

We cannot tolerate or turn a blind eye to racism and exclusion in any form and yet claim to defend the sacredness of every human life.

Learn more: www.networkadvocates.org/EquallySacred

**A tool for voters to evaluate candidates’ positions on the issues Pope Francis names as “equally sacred” to the defense of the unborn**

Gaudete et Exsultate - March 2018

101. Our defense of the innocent unborn, for example, needs to be clear, firm, and passionate, for at stake is the dignity of a human life, which is always sacred and demands love for each person, regardless of his or her stage of development. Equally sacred, however, are the lives of the poor, those already born, the destitute, the abandoned and the underprivileged, the vulnerable unborn and elderly exposed to covert eutanasia, the victims of human trafficking, new forms of slavery, and every form of rejection. We cannot uphold an ideal of holiness that would ignore a situation in a world where some rich, spend with abandon and live only for the latest consumer goods, even as others look on from afar, living their entire lives in object poverty.

102. We often hear it said that the situation of migrants is a lesser issue. Some Catholics consider it a secondary issue compared to the “greater” bioethical questions. That a politician looking for votes might say such a thing is understandable, but not a Christian, for whom the only proper attitude is to stand in the shoes of those brothers and sisters of ours who risk their lives to offer a future to their children.

Laudato Si’ - June 2015

67. Each community can take from the bounty of the earth whatever it needs for sustenance, but it also has the duty to protect the earth and to ensure its fruitfulness for coming generations.

NETWORK Advocates Training
Scorecard Sources

- Apostolic Exhortation on proclaiming the Gospel in the world

🌟 **Laudato Si’ “Praise Be to You”** – May 2015
- Papal Encyclical on the care for our common home

🌟 **Guadete et Exsultate “Rejoice & be Glad”** – March 2018
- Apostolic Exhortation on Holiness

🌟 **General Audience** – June 3, 2020
- Addressed the sins of racism and exclusion after the murder of George Floyd
How did this work?

Liz @bluebonnetbunny · Oct 11, 2020
Please share - The Equally Sacred scorecard. "If we are pro-life we cannot ignore economic inequality." "Equally sacred are people and families on the economic fringes." #NunsOnTheBus @sr_simone

Katy Ganino Reddick
Thank you for shaping language that makes discussing these issues easier.

Susie Doran
I have shared this scorecard with as many one issue voters that I can. Unfortunately, we have a priest who publicly remains one issue.

Estelle Hans
Please read - it is written with such clarity and looks at the real need and the big picture.
Candidate Positions

🌟 Funding housing, nutrition programs and other economic supports
🌟 Increase access to health care and oppose cuts to Medicare/Medicaid
🌟 Support for raising the minimum wage and workers’ right to organize

Previous record, statements.... Tweets.
Candidate Positions

- Seeks to accurately measure and address economic inequality, including racial wealth and income gap
- Supports family in immigration policies and humane treatment of immigrants, protects Dreamers
- Supports policies that address climate change
Multi-Issue Voter Messaging

- It is immoral to allow a single issue to outweigh candidates’ positions that harm immigrants and asylum seekers, low-income families, people of color, the LGBTQ+ community, the environment, and other marginalized communities.
- Focus on a single issue allows other social sins to continue unchecked – environmental destruction, economic exploitation, harm to immigrants, racism, and more.
- In recent years, Pope Francis – echoing hundreds of years of Church teaching – has spoken clearly and forcefully about the demands facing Catholics in the public sphere.
- We cannot support candidates whose policies worsen economic inequality, sow division, racism, and xenophobia, and impose greater harm on the most vulnerable.
- Racism and economic inequality are systemic problems that need systemic solutions. We need policies that advance racial and economic justice. As we say: “Policies got us into this, policies can get us out.”
- We encourage people of faith to listen to their own conscience and embrace an expansive, inclusive agenda of political priorities instead of a narrow one.
Practice: Talking Points

🌞 One-on-One Time: Practicing Multi-Issue Talking Points
1. How does your faith inform your political engagement/voting?
2. What issues do you care about?
3. Why are you a multi-issue voter?

🌞 Large Group Report Out
- What went well?
- Where can you see yourself using this messaging?

Return at 11:30 AM
Co-branded versions
Spanish and Vietnamese translations
Social Media
January 2021 Georgia Runoff

The Roll Out
Questions? Ideas?

Thank you!