

As we complete the Election Cycle (My Final Words)

Having returned from family and diocesan work in Raleigh, I smiled when Cardinal Raymond Burke affirmed my last post on important points to consider when voting.

I previously wrote:

“When we see life, people, babies, the elderly, marriage, family, our sexuality and bodies, immigration, and religious freedom through the lens of a Higher Authority (God’s Eternal and Natural Law) only then will we become what made us one of the Greatest Nations to have lived and given life to all because of God’s Blessings.”

Cardinal Raymond Burke released an election guide for Catholics last Tuesday, addressing "moral questions" regarding voting. The Cardinal also emphasized human life, marriage, family, and religious freedom as preeminent issues, and encouraged Catholics to respond to “even the smallest ray of hope” that their votes can effect “ever greater change for the common good.

We both ask you to think about human life, religious freedom as prominent issues when voting as a Christian. As an example: Look at which candidates past statements or record states that they prefer no religious exemptions for abortion.

Cardinal Burke stresses:

1) Pray and Fast

Cardinal Burke: “Let us pray and fast for our nation, especially for the conversion of our national culture from violence and death to peace and life” He strongly recommends Catholics participate in the [Nine-Month Novena to Our Lady of Guadalupe](#).

2) Oppose Harmful Agendas

Cardinal Burke: “We must be abundantly clear and tirelessly steadfast in our opposition to the anti-life, anti-family, and anti-religion agenda which are destroying families, communities, and our nation.”

3) Study Candidates Agendas

Cardinal Burke: “Catholics “must study carefully the agenda of each candidate to see whether a candidate, even though he or she espouses morally objectionable programs and policies, will, in some way, limit the evil. If a candidate will, at least, limit the evil, we must support the limitation while insisting on the need to eradicate the evil altogether.”

4) Seek Hope in Candidates

Cardinal Burke: “Catholics must consider whether there is a “ray of hope” to advance national politics in accordance with moral law by voting for a particular candidate.

5) Respond to Hope by Voting

“He finally warns that “if there is even the smallest ray of hope to effect some change in view of effecting ever greater change for the common good, it is not right for us to fail in responding to the ray of hope. Only if no candidate provides any ray of hope of serving, at least in some part, the common good, especially in what pertains to human life, marriage and the family, and the practice of religion, are we justified in not voting at all.” (I will add: I DO BELIEVE there is an existing party platform that may not be perfect, but provides a ray of hope to reducing immoral actions concerning the just stated concerns

by Cardinal Burke: pertaining to the common good, especially towards human life, marriage and the family, and the practice of religion.)

For the “Catholic Voting Guide” from the good Cardinal:
<https://www.cardinalburke.com/images/backgroundimages/On-Our-Civic-Responsibility-for-the-Common-Good-by-Archbishop-Raymond-Cardinal-Burke-2004.PDF>

Prayer for “Consecrating the Election to the Virgin Mary”

Please remember to really ask yourself: are any candidates, by their actions or words, not friendly towards our Catholic Faith.

Let us pray

“Mary Immaculate, living tabernacle of the Divinity, where the eternal Wisdom lies hidden to be adored and served by angels and men, Queen of heaven and of earth, beneath whose sway are subject all things that are lower than God, Patroness of the United States of America, sorrowful and mindful of our own sinfulness and the sins of our nation, we come to Thee, our refuge and hope. Knowing that our country cannot be saved by our own works and mindful of how much our nation has departed from the ways of Thy Son, we humbly ask that Thou wouldst turn Thine eyes upon our country to bring about its conversion. We consecrate to Thee the integrity of the upcoming election and its outcome, so that what is spiritually and morally best for the citizens of our country may be accomplished, and that all of those who are elected would govern according to the spiritual and moral principles which will bring our nation into conformity with the teachings of Thy Son. Give grace to the citizens of this land so that they will choose leaders according to the Sacred Heart of Thy Son, that His glory may be made manifest, lest we be given the leaders we deserve. Trusting in the providential care of God the Father and Thy maternal care, we have perfect confidence that Thou will take care of us and will not leave us forsaken. O Mary Immaculate, pray for us.”

Amen

Vivat Jesus,
Father Vic Gournas