



PENNSYLVANIA
CATHOLIC
CONFERENCE

On The Ballot: Pennsylvania Primary Election 2014

REPUBLICANS



Tom Corbett



Bob Guzzardi

DEMOCRATS



Rob McCord



Katie McGinty



Allyson Schwartz



Tom Wolf

Primary Election day is **May 20, 2014**. Pennsylvanians will go to the polls to select the Democratic and Republican contenders for governor, lieutenant governor, U.S. Congressional representatives, some state senators and all state representatives.

In the gubernatorial race, Republicans have two choices. [Tom Corbett](#) is the incumbent governor and former state attorney general. Prior to running for statewide office, Corbett was a teacher and a lawyer both as an assistant U.S. attorney and in private practice. [Bob Guzzardi](#), his challenger, is also an attorney.

Democrats have a few more choices. Here is how they will appear on the ballot. [Tom Wolf](#) is the former Secretary of Revenue under Governor Ed Rendell and is CEO of a kitchen cabinet and specialty building products company. [Rob McCord](#) is the current state treasurer. Prior to his public service, he was the managing director of several venture capital funds. [Katie McGinty](#) sits on the boards of several energy and clean technology companies. She was a senior advisor on environmental matters to Senator and Vice-President Al Gore and President Bill Clinton and was secretary of Pennsylvania's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) under Governor Ed Rendell. [Allyson Schwartz](#) currently represents Pennsylvania's 13th

Congressional District and is a former state senator. Prior to elective office she was executive director of the Elizabeth Blackwell Women's Health Center, a [Planned Parenthood abortion clinic](#) in Philadelphia.

The Pennsylvania Catholic Conference neither supports nor opposes any candidate for public office but aims to educate Catholic voters about candidates and their positions on key issues. We sent a questionnaire to every statewide candidate giving them an opportunity to state their positions in their own words. Governor Corbett responded (read his completed questionnaire at www.pacatholic.org); the other Republican and the Democratic candidates did not respond. However, all of the candidates have made public statements and published campaign materials that give clues about where they stand.

See other side for information about the candidates' positions on several issues.



NOTE: The underlined words in this document represent website links to the resources cited. To review this document with the live links, go to www.pacatholic.org.

These are a few, but certainly not all, of the issues that may be of interest to Catholic voters.

Life & Dignity of the Human Person

Republican Corbett indicated on PCC's questionnaire that he opposes legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest. In a January 26, 2014, story the [Pittsburgh Tribune-Review](#) reported that Guzzardi agrees with restricting abortion and on his [Facebook page](#) he describes partial-birth abortion as infanticide.

All four Democratic candidates described themselves as 'pro-choice' on the abortion issue during a debate at [Carnegie Mellon University](#) in January 2014.

Access to Health Care

Corbett told the PCC he believes Pennsylvania should use the additional federal funds under the Affordable Care Act to allow more people, including the working poor, to access the private insurance market. He has proposed a plan to this effect called [Healthy Pennsylvania](#).

Regarding the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid expansion, Guzzardi told the [York Daily Record](#), "The Forgotten Taxpayer cannot afford these programs ... There are consequences to spending more than we can afford."

All four Democrats [say they would expand Medicaid](#) immediately if elected governor. According to his [campaign website](#), Wolf would "take

an active, aggressive role in expanding access to health care in Pennsylvania." In addition to expanding Medicaid, McCord told [Keystone Politics](#) that he "would like to see Pennsylvania take an aggressive approach to promoting health care exchanges, especially to young, healthy consumers who will help spread out the risk and bring costs down for the rest of us." In a [campaign press release](#), McGinty said, "Numerous studies have shown the federal aid would not only cover hundreds of thousands of Pennsylvanians, but it would also boost economic activity, support job creation and generate real savings for state government." Schwartz talks about her record in Congress helping to pass the Affordable Care Act in her [campaign ads](#).

School Choice

Corbett increased funding for the Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC) and established the Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credit Program (OSTC) during his administration. Guzzardi states he believes in parental choice in education on his [campaign website](#).

All four Democratic candidates told [NBC 10 in Philadelphia](#) that they oppose state-funded tuition assistance vouchers for private school students. They also told the [York Daily Record](#) about their opposition to vouchers. [Wolf](#) has a plan to reform charter schools. [McCord](#) has a \$1.3 billion education plan. [McGinty](#) has a multi-step plan to increase education funding. [Schwartz](#) details a "new road forward" for education in Pennsylvania.

Further Information

In addition to researching the candidates' public statements on issues, reviewing a list of endorsements can also demonstrate a particular point of view. Catholics may consider reviewing campaign websites for the most update news about who is supporting the candidates.

REPUBLICANS

Tom Corbett
www.tomcorbettforgovernor.com

Bob Guzzardi
www.bobguzzardi.com

DEMOCRATS

Rob McCord
www.robmccord.com

Katie McGinty
www.katiemcginty.com

Allyson Schwartz
www.allysonschwartz.com

Tom Wolf
www.wolfforpa.com

All of these resources serve to educate voters about the issues and allow us to inform our consciences about which candidate will act in the best interest of the common good. As Catholic citizens, we have a moral obligation to participate in the political process. Mark your calendar for Primary Election Day on May 20, 2014. Visit www.votespa.com to find out where your polling place is. Visit the PA Department of State's website at www.dos.state.pa.us to see who else is on the ballot. Then exercise your faithful citizenship and **VOTE!**