



PENNSYLVANIA  
CATHOLIC  
CONFERENCE

INSTITUTE FOR  
PUBLIC POLICY

## **Catholic Citizenship**

In the Catholic tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation. This obligation is rooted in our baptismal commitment to follow Jesus Christ and to bear Christian witness in all we do.

Nearly 3.8 million Catholics live in Pennsylvania; but not all are adequately informed about public affairs or know how to form their conscience in accordance with Catholic teaching. The voice of Catholics cannot be heard if they do not know what to say.

## **Connecting Catholics throughout the Commonwealth**

An effort is under way that will increase the reach and efficiency of Catholic advocacy in Pennsylvania. That is why the Bishops of Pennsylvania formed the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference Institute for Public Policy.

This statewide effort will facilitate opportunities for Catholics to become better informed about the Catholic perspective on public policy issues, engage in discussions, and associate with those of like mind.

The Institute will bring together experts on Catholic issues to comment, reflect and shed the light of Catholic social teaching into the public debate. Lay Catholics, clergy, religious and all interested citizens are encouraged to become active in this collaborative effort.

## **The fullness of Catholic teaching**

Seven categories have been established which encompass the core of the Catholic social and moral teachings.

You are encouraged to explore any or all of these topics and join the community in advocating and advancing a public understanding of the Catholic perspective.

- Catholic Education
- Religious Liberty
- Life & Dignity of the Human Person
- Marriage & Family
- Social Justice
- Health Care
- Faith & Politics

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