



iVoteCatholic

Rights & Responsibilities

The Catholic tradition teaches that human dignity can be protected and a healthy community can be achieved only if human rights are protected and responsibilities met. Therefore every person has a fundamental right to life and a right to those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities – to one another, to our families and to the larger society.

Church Teaching Quotes

“In human society one man’s natural right gives rise to a corresponding duty in other men; the duty, that is, of recognizing and respecting that right. Every basic human right draws its authoritative force from the natural law, which confers it and attaches to it its respective duty. Hence, to claim one’s right and ignore one’s duties, or only half fulfill them, is like building a house with one hand and tearing it down with another.” Pope St. John XXIII, *Peace on Earth (Pacem in Terris)*, 30.

“The link consists in this: individual rights, when detached from a framework of duties which grants them their full meaning, can run wild, leading to an escalation of demands which is effectively unlimited and indiscriminate.” -Pope Benedict XVI, *Charity in Truth (Caritas in Veritate)*, 43

Scriptural Foundations

Deuteronomy 5:17, 30:19

Psalms 146:5-8

Isaiah 10:1-2

Mark 12:17

Right to life

Freedom from Oppression

Against just laws

Render God/ Render to Caesar