



NEW ZEALAND BISHOPS

“We urge you all to pray about, reflect on, discuss and debate what kind of society New Zealand can be in the eyes of God. Faith has a vital role in the public forum. Stand up, uphold the common good of our nation, choose wisely, and your vote will be a blessing for our nation.”

From: Step out and Vote The New Zealand Catholic Bishops' 2017 Election Statement

PRAYER BEFORE AN ELECTION

Lord God, as the election approaches,
we seek to better understand the issues and concerns
that confront our nation,
and how the Gospel compels us
to respond as faithful citizens in our community.
We ask for eyes that are free from blindness
so that we might see each other as brothers and sisters,
one and equal in dignity,
especially those who are victims of abuse and violence, deceit and poverty.
We ask for ears that will hear
the cries of children unborn and those abandoned,
men and women oppressed because of race or creed, religion or gender.
We ask for minds and hearts that are open to hearing the voice of leaders who will
bring us closer to your Kingdom.

We pray for discernment
so that we may choose leaders who hear your Word,
live your love,
and keep in the ways of your truth
as they follow in the steps of Jesus and his Apostles
and guide us to your Kingdom of justice and peace.

We ask this in the name of your Son Jesus Christ and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen. [USCCB]

Prayer of the Faithful

For the upcoming election: (pause)

May our vote be a blessing for this nation, Lord, hear us.

For the upcoming election: (pause)

May our choices this election reflect our love of God and neighbour, and bring our nation closer to God's Kingdom, Lord, hear us.

For the upcoming election: (pause)

may we choose leaders who hear God's Word, live God's love, and keep in the ways of God's truth, Lord, hear us.

For the upcoming election: (pause)

may we select leaders who will place the needs of our nation, especially the weak and vulnerable, at the fore of their policies, Lord, hear us.

For the upcoming election: (pause)

that leaders will be chosen who will bring our nation closer to God's Kingdom, Lord, hear us.