## WHAT CATHOLICS MUST DO IN POLITICS

Many don't realize we are required to be active in political matters. Citizens, Political and Church Authorities are obligated to learn about and confront public immorality.

See what our Catechism says in some excerpts below! Thank you and may God bless you and your families! Vic Melfa

## What Does Our Catechism Say We Must Do in Politics??

## **Duties of civil authorities**

<u>2237</u> ......The political rights attached to citizenship can and should be granted according to the requirements of the common good. They cannot be suspended by public authorities without legitimate and proportionate reasons.

## The duties of citizens

<u>2238</u> ... Their loyal collaboration includes the right, and at times the duty, to voice their just criticisms of that which seems harmful to the dignity of persons and to the good of the community.

<u>2239</u> It is the *duty of citizens* to contribute along with the civil authorities to the good of society in a spirit of truth, justice, solidarity, and freedom...Submission to legitimate authorities and service of the common good require citizens to fulfill their roles in the life of the political community.

<u>2242</u> The citizen is **obliged in conscience not to follow the directives of civil authorities** when they are contrary to the demands of the moral order, to the fundamental rights of persons or the teachings of the Gospel. "We must obey God rather than men": ... it is legitimate for them to defend their own rights and those of their fellow citizens against the abuse of this authority within the limits of the natural law and the Law of the Gospel.

The political community and the Church 2245 .. "The Church respects and encourages the political freedom and responsibility of the citizen."

<u>2246</u> It is a part of the Church's mission "to pass moral judgments even in matters related to politics, whenever the fundamental rights of man or the salvation of souls requires it.

FROM: CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH SECOND EDITION - PART THREE LIFE IN CHRIST, SECTION TWO THE TEN COMMANDMENTS, CHAPTER TWO "YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF", ARTICLE 4 THE FOURTH COMMANDMENT, SUBSECTION V. THE AUTHORITIES IN CIVIL SOCIETY

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