We want to hear what everyone has to say, so remember—tonight is a discussion, not a debate.

**DEBATE VERSUS DISCUSSION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Debate is a formal contest of argumentation between two individuals or teams</th>
<th>Discussion is an exchange of ideas, information, opinions between a group of people</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Always has two opposing sides</td>
<td>Does not have two opposing sides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Has a conclusion</td>
<td>Does not have a conclusion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More formal than discussions</td>
<td>Less formal than debates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempt to persuade the listeners and the other side that their view is correct</td>
<td>Attempt to share knowledge, information, experiences, and opinions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**IT’S NOT ABOUT WINNING OR LOSING, BUT LOVE AND RESPECT**

—MARIA LUZADO

---

**KEEP CALM AND KEEP A CIVIL TONE**

---

**LISTEN & understand**

---

**RESPECT IS THE KEY**

---

**FLAME TEEN HANDOUT**

**Week 5 – Faithful Citizenship: A Call to Political Responsibility**
Name 10 people you know or know of who are involved politically:

1. ____________________________
2. ____________________________
3. ____________________________
4. ____________________________
5. ____________________________
6. ____________________________
7. ____________________________
8. ____________________________
9. ____________________________
10. ____________________________

Which of these people would you say is political?

Nelson Mandela  Ghandi  Desmond Tutu  Rosa Parks

Martin Luther King, Jr.  Susan B. Anthony  St. Thomas Moore  Ban Ki-Moon

Key Ideas This Week

1. Civic Engagement refers to active participation in the life of a community.
2. Being civically engaged benefits the individual and the community.
3. Community service and voting are two ways of being civically engaged.
4. Civic engagement finds it fullest expression in the greatest commandment – love God and love others as yourself.
5. Our faith, along with our families, friends, education, and personal experience influence and shape our political values.
6. Catholics believe it is necessary that "all participate" in political life, and that doing so is related to our dignity as human persons – everyone’s voice deserves to be heard.
7. The purpose of actively participating in political life is to bring about the common good.
Scripture Speak

Mark 12:28-32

“One of the scribes, when he came forward and heard them disputing and saw how well he had answered them, asked him, “Which is the first of all the commandments?” Jesus replied, “The first is this: ‘Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.

The scribe said to him, “Well said, teacher. You are right in saying, ‘He is One and there is no other than he.’ And to love him with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself’ is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices.” And when Jesus saw that [he] answered with understanding, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” And no one dared to ask him any more questions.

Reflect & Get More from Your Bible

1. How does the dispute about which commandment is the most important remind you of the arguments/debates people enter into in an election year?
2. Why do people argue these things? What are they looking for?
3. How do the two commandments Jesus lays out relate to the idea of being a faithful disciple who is an active community member?
4. How does our faith life help us to love others?
5. How does being compassionate toward others affect us spiritually?
6. How would our relationships and communities be different if we could really live this

American Wisdom

“The Declaration of Independence laid the cornerstone of human government upon the first precepts of Christianity.”
John Quincy Adams

“If a nation expects to be ignorant and free, in a state of civilization, it expects what never was and never will be.”
Thomas Jefferson

“You gain strength, courage & confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face, do the thing you think you cannot do.”
Eleanor Roosevelt

“To be good, and do good, is the whole duty of man comprised in a few words.”
Abigail Adams
Engaged?

Develop a greater appreciation for diversity, which will lead you to a greater sense of belonging.

Increase your social networks & enjoy greater social support.

Gain skills in:
- Communication
- Planning
- Decision-making
- Problem solving
- Leadership

Learn about issues that are important to you.

Improve your chances for academic success.

Please God

Put your love & faith into action.

Make a difference; leave your mark.

Be seen as a person who cares.

Make your family proud.

Achieve a stronger sense of identity, meaning, direction and purpose.

Give me a minute to think

Informed decisions

Informed actions

for me and my community

Community Engagement?

“Building a future of freedom requires love of the common good and cooperation in a spirit of subsidiarity and solidarity.”

–Pope Francis

Be informed!
faithful disciple = active community member

“In the Catholic Tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation.”

—Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship, no. 13

Do good & avoid evil
A good end does not justify an immoral means

The Church calls for a different kind of political engagement: one shaped by the moral convictions of well-formed consciences and focused on the dignity of every human being, the pursuit of the common good, and the protection of the weak and the vulnerable.”

Any society, any nation, is judged on the basis of how it treats its weakest members - the last, the least, the littlest.

Cardinal Roger Mahony
Archbishop of Los Angeles 1985-2011

The Church equips her members to address political and social questions by helping them to develop a well-formed conscience.

Conscience is the voice of God resounding in the human heart, revealing the truth to us and calling us to do what is good while shunning what is evil

Let’s Talk About It!

- Name some moral obligations every citizen has?
- What does "participation in political life" mean for someone your age?
- In what ways can you contribute to our political discourse, even if you can’t vote?
- Do you feel your "voice matters?" Why or why not?
- What can you do to make your voice heard?

- How does politics impact YOUR life? (local, state, federal)
- Identify some issues that have been raised in the Presidential campaign that impact you?
  o Which of these are you’re passionate about? Why?
- Think about how these issues may affect you: war, debt-free college, dress codes, LGBT rights, cyber bullying laws, gun control, minimum wage, labor laws

BE AWARE OF THE STILL SMALL VOICE WITHIN YOU

As Catholics we are not single issue voters. We are called to consider the big picture.
This month, Americans will vote for who they wish to see as the next president of the United States. The two biggest candidates are Hillary Clinton (Democrat) and Donald Trump (Republican).

- Are you passionate about one of the major political party candidates? Why?
- Is there another candidate whom you know of that you support more than Clinton or Trump?
- How do your social and religious beliefs align with the positions of the candidates or party platforms?
- As a faithful citizen are you obligated to support a candidate whose beliefs match yours exactly?
- If you can’t find this candidate, then what do you do?

Here is list of Issues compiled by The United States Conference of Catholic Bishops of issues that are central to Catholic teaching:

- The sacredness of life
- The dignity of every human person
- The integrity of marriage and family life
- The protection of and guarantee of religious freedom
- Economic justice for all
- Provide access to health care
- A preferential option for the poor (an end to poverty)
- Fair immigration policies
- Support for Catholic education
- Care for our common home (care for the environment)
- Opposition to policies that reflect racism, religious bigotry, and other forms of unjust discrimination.
- Promoting justice and countering violence
- The need for global solidarity
- Establish and comply with moral limits on the use of military force
- The pursuit of the common good

- Which of these issues are important to you as a citizen?
- Which of these issues have been addressed by the candidates?

See http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/faithful-citizenship for a description of the issues and how we are called to respond to them.

“We need to participate for the common good. Sometimes we hear: a good Catholic is not interested in politics. This is not true: good Catholics immerse themselves in politics by offering the best of themselves so that the leader can govern.” - Pope Francis

Catholic Social Teaching strongly promotes active citizenship.
| National security | WANTS TO | NATIONAL SECURITY-2016 | WANTS TO |
|-------------------|----------|------------------------|--|--------|
|                   | Maintain current restrictions (under the USA Freedom Act) on NSA surveillance | Reinstate the NSA’s bulk surveillance programme |
|                   | Close the Guantanamo Bay detention centre | Keep the Guantanamo Bay detention centre open |
|                   | Prohibit the use of harsh interrogation techniques, like waterboarding, on terrorism suspects | Approve the use of harsh interrogation techniques, like waterboarding, on terrorism suspects |
|                   | Tighten screening of people who have traveled to countries facing “problems with terrorism” | Ban Muslims from entering the United States |

| Immigration | WANTS TO | NATIONAL SECURITY-2016 | WANTS TO |
|-------------|----------|------------------------|--|--------|
|             | Defend and potentially expand on President Obama’s deportation relief actions | Expand fencing and increase aerial surveillance and border patrols |
|             | Allow a path to citizenship for the undocumented | Organise a mass deportation of the undocumented |
|             | Allow the undocumented to purchase health insurance | Expand e-verify |
|             | Focus enforcement on the detention/deportation of violent criminals | Withhold funding from so-called sanctuary cities |
|             | Promote naturalisation to lawful residents | End birthright citizenship |
|             | Allow up to 65,000 Syrian refugees per year into the US | Ban Muslims from entering the United States |

| Defense | WANTS TO | NATIONAL SECURITY-2016 | WANTS TO |
|---------|----------|------------------------|--|--------|
|         | Strengthen military alliances | Lift caps on the defence budget |
|         | Expand the armed services | |

| Energy, climate change | WANTS TO | NATIONAL SECURITY-2016 | WANTS TO |
|-----------------------|----------|------------------------|--|--------|
|                       | Abide by the Paris accord limiting global carbon emissions | Increase production of fossil fuels, including offshore drilling |
|                       | Expand investment in renewable energy | Remove carbon emissions limits on US power plants |
|                       | Ban drilling in the US Arctic | Finish construction of the Keystone XL pipeline |
|                       | Block attempts to resurrect construction of the Keystone XL pipeline | |

| North Korea | WANTS TO | NATIONAL SECURITY-2016 | WANTS TO |
|-------------|----------|------------------------|--|--------|
|             | Increase co-operation with China in areas of common interest | Increase US military presence in and around the South China Sea |
|             | Reinforce alliances in the Asia-Pacific, including with Japan and South Korea | Investigate and punish China for unfair trade practices |
|             | Ratchet up the US deterrent against Chinese cyberattacks | |
|             | Take a stronger stance against China’s human rights record | |
|             | Increase sanctions on Pyongyang for its January 2016 nuclear test | Urge China to pressure North Korea to curtail its nuclear weapons programme |
|             | Urge China to pressure North Korea to curtail its nuclear weapons programme | Meet North Korea’s leader to discuss its nuclear programme |
|             | Bolster US ballistic missile shield with allies Japan and South Korea | |

| Islamic State | WANTS TO | NATIONAL SECURITY-2016 | WANTS TO |
|---------------|----------|------------------------|--|--------|
|               | Abide by the multi-national nuclear deal | Abide by the multi-national nuclear deal |
|               | Re-impose sanctions on Iran for any failure to comply | Re-impose sanctions if Iran does not comply |
|               | Maintain Israel’s military superiority in the region | |
|               | Ratchet up sanctions against Russia for its intervention in Ukraine | Urge European states to put diplomatic pressure on Russia for its Ukraine intervention |
|               | Help wean Europe off of Russian energy dependence | |
|               | Expand US missile defences in Eastern Europe | |
|               | | Fight the Islamic State with a coalition of Western and Arab states |
|               | | Conduct more US airstrikes |
|               | | Arm and support Kurdish and Sunni Arab fighters |
|               | | Avoid deploying a large US ground force in Iraq and Syria |
Firsts in America (from http://www.factmonster.com/ipka/A0194050.html)


Black man elected to U.S. Senate: Hiram Revels, 1870, Mississippi.


Black U.S. cabinet minister: Robert C. Weaver, 1966, Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development.


Lesbian, acknowledged, elected to high local office: Kathy Kozachenko, 1974, Ann Arbor City Council.

Gay man, acknowledged, elected to high local office: Harvey Milk, 1977, San Francisco Board of Supervisors.


Openly gay Congressman: Gerry Eastman Studds, served 1973 until 1997


Woman cabinet member: Frances Perkins, Secretary of Labor, 1933.

Woman candidate for president: Victoria Claflin Woodhull, nominated by National Woman’s Suffrage Assn. on ticket of Nation Radical Reformers, 1872.


Woman elected governor of a state: Nellie Tayloe Ross, Wyoming, 1925.

Woman elected to U.S. Senate: Hattie Caraway, Arkansas; elected Nov. 1932.

Woman member of U.S. House of Representatives: Jeannette Rankin (Mont.); elected Nov. 1916.

Woman member of U.S. Supreme Court: Sandra Day O’Connor; appointed July 1981.


Woman suffrage granted: Wyoming Territory, 1869.

Also of note: The first woman elected president in the world was Isabel Perón of Argentina in 1974.
**I Learned Statements** - complete at least two of the sentences below

- I learned...
- I discovered...
- I was reminded that...
- I was surprised by...
- The question I have is...