

PEOPLE
FAITH
OBAMA



Change Catholics Can Believe In

Funded in part by the Catholic Campaign for Human Development, Barack Obama began his career by working with Catholic parishes and other faith communities in economically depressed neighborhoods on the south side of Chicago, and passed up more lucrative options to do so. He has continued to show a deep commitment to the Gospel mandate to care for one another in his pledge to make quality healthcare affordable for all Americans, work for a living wage, protect homeownership, and cut domestic poverty in half in 10 years—positions in line with Catholic Charities USA.

As president, Barack Obama will make long-term investments in education, training, workforce development, and clean energy so that we can leverage our strengths - our ingenuity and entrepreneurialism – to create new high-wage jobs and prosper in a world economy. Obama will also help Pennsylvania families who are struggling with the cost of energy, housing, and healthcare by raising the minimum wage and indexing it to inflation, protecting home ownership, and creating a new national health plan so quality coverage is affordable for all Americans.

Turning the Page

For years Republicans have been using our Catholic faith as a wedge to divide us as a community and as a country in order to win elections. The result has been 8 years of growing economic insecurity for working families, skyrocketing debt for our grandchildren, unnecessary war, and destruction of our environment. Today in America, 47 million are uninsured, more than 36 million live in poverty, and 12.6 million children are at risk of hunger.

In their pastoral letter *Economic Justice for All*, the Catholic Bishops remind us that government has “a positive moral responsibility in safeguarding human rights and ensuring that the minimum conditions of human dignity are met for all.” It’s time we respond to the call and turn the page on the Republican (Bush-McCain) legacy of division and inaction, reclaim government for the common good, and protect human dignity by securing basic human rights like housing, healthcare, employment, and a living wage.

This election is going to be close and many undecided Catholic voters live right here in our community. Our country and world cannot afford another four years of the Bush policies that John McCain is offering.

A Call to Action

The Catholic Bishops tell us in Faithful Citizenship that “responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation.” We hope you will discern how critical this election is for you, your community, our nation, and the world....And that discernment will lead you to join our efforts.

Help us organize our Catholic Outreach efforts in your area. We will give updates of the campaign and our Catholic Outreach plans, solicit your feedback, hear your concerns, and strategize our work together to build a stronger plan as faithful citizens.