



OFFICE OF THE ARCHBISHOP

October 11, 2010

Dear Father, Pastoral Coordinator:

You are in a key position to assist our people in preparing for the election in November. I join with you in desiring to help Catholics live out our call – our obligation – to become informed, active, and responsible participants in the political process.

Enclosed you will find a statement from the Washington State Catholic Conference, entitled *Seeking the Common Good: Election 2010*. This reflection offers valuable insight to inform the discussion on the ballot issues and their effect on the common good. It is to assist your faith community to bring the teachings of the Church into the public arena. **Please copy and distribute the enclosed bulletin insert to your parishioners.**

This year there are eight ballot measures, and five of them would either change the sources of revenue for the State or restructure the present tax structure. These all have implications for provision of State-supported social services for those in need. The bishops have not taken a position on any of the ballot issues, but we are asking our Catholic citizens to form their conscience by prayerfully reflecting on Catholic teaching before casting their vote. In addition, the Washington State Catholic Conference has posted on their website the [pros and cons](#) of each of the ballot measures.

Thank you once again for your ministry, especially at this crucial time of increased political activity. May we all work in this election year to ensure that our society upholds human life and human dignity, contributes to the common good, and pursues the values of justice and peace.

With warmest regards and wishes, I remain

Sincerely yours in Christ,

+ *Alex J. Brunett*

Most Rev. Alex J. Brunett
Apostolic Administrator

Enc.

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