



## *Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles*

September 22, 2020

Dear Friends,

I hope you are all doing well and that you are all healthy and happy.

In this past year, there have been many changes in our lives. We have tried our best to stay connected despite the difficulties and challenges.

Now, the United States of America is preparing itself for the upcoming general election in November. As Catholic Citizens of this country, we have a sacred role and obligation to make informed decisions when we vote. This is not about partisanship, affiliations, or choosing one candidate over another but simply about choosing our elected officials and voting on issues by following our conscience and Church teachings.

There are many key issues up for vote in November and there are things we must remember when we determine our choice. As Catholics we have a duty to be true to our faith and to the teachings of the Church. We must respect and value the dignity of every person as our faith teaches us. Our choices should focus on the common good of all people and not just personal or political interests.

When you vote this November, I ask you to stay informed, pray, and reflect on your choices. As both Catholics and citizens of this country, we have a responsibility to participate in the civil life of the United States, but we must follow Christ's teachings when making these decisions.

If anyone would like to know more, please reference the United States Conference for Catholic Bishops page Forming Conscience for Faithful Citizenship  
<https://www.usccb.org/offices/justice-peace-human-development/forming-consciences-faithful-citizenship>.

With my sincere best wishes and prayers, I remain

Yours in Christ,

+A. Elias Zaidan

Bishop of the Eparchy of Our Lady of Lebanon of Los Angeles