

Lifelines

| For the Reverence of All Human Life |

Special Election Issue



The Virginia Catholic Conference is alerting all voters to several crucial issues that will be determined by the results of this year's Virginia election on November 4th. On that day, Virginians will select candidates for all 100 seats in the House of Delegates as well as for Governor, Lt. Governor and Attorney

General. While every year in Virginia is an election year, this November's elections are poised to have an outsized impact on our Commonwealth as our state legislators continue to consider three proposed constitutional amendments, including an extreme constitutional amendment establishing a "right" to abortion.

"The legislators we elect this November will decide whether the proposed amendments are advanced or stopped." - Virginia Catholic Conference

Three proposed Amendments to Virginia's Constitution would:



Create a radical "fundamental right" to abortion. (Opposed by VCC)



Remove Virginia's "union between one man and one woman" definition of marriage. (Opposed by VCC)

Learn More

For detailed [Candidate Comparison Charts](#) in the races for:

Governor

Lt. Governor

and

Attorney General

go to the Virginia Catholic Conference Election 2025 Resource Hub at:

<https://vacatholic.org/action-center/Election2025/>

where you will find additional links to help form your conscience on the issues at hand, as well as links for voter registration and absentee ballots.

Meet the 2025-2026 Culture of Life Leadership



Anna Ridenour
Chairman



Karen Adams
Co-Chairman



Ben Huggins
Secretary



Madeleine Cromer



Mary Dudley

St. Gerard's Ministry

**Mark your Calendar for the
Next Culture of Life
ministry meeting:**

**Friday, Nov 14th, 1 p.m. in
the Office Conference Rm.**



**Restore voting rights to all who have
completed prison sentences.**
(Supported by VCC)

These three proposals were initially approved by the General Assembly earlier this year. If they pass the legislature again in 2026 – and are then approved by Virginia voters on a ballot – they would become law. The proposed amendment on abortion would enshrine virtually unlimited abortion at any stage of pregnancy as a “fundamental right” in Virginia’s constitution. In addition to the paramount problem of not recognizing the child’s life, the amendment:

- ➔ Does not include any age restriction
- ➔ Does not include any safety standards
- ➔ Jeopardizes Virginia’s parental consent law
- ➔ Jeopardizes Virginia’s conscience protections for healthcare providers, *including pregnancy centers*
- ➔ Expands Virginia’s already permissive abortion laws.

To end a life is not a right and does not belong in the constitution.

Bishop Knestout, in a letter last month stated, “As the *Catechism* reminds us, ‘It is necessary that all participate, each according to his position and role, in promoting the common good.... As far as possible, citizens should take an active part in *public life*’ (nos. 1913-1915). To promote the common good, we must form our consciences and vote, recognizing that:

- Many issues are important.
- Not all issues have equal moral weight.
- Protecting life is paramount.

Above all else, addressing the tragedy of abortion is the ‘pre-eminent priority because it directly attacks our most vulnerable and voiceless brothers and sisters and destroys more than a million lives per year in our country alone’

(*Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship*, Introductory Note, U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2023).”