

Praying for the Political Parties

*A Prayer Guide for Government,
Voting, and Civil Engagement*



IFA

INTERCESSORS FOR AMERICA

Life

Democratic Party

“We will appoint U.S. Supreme Court justices and federal judges who . . . will respect and enforce foundational precedents, including . . . Roe v. Wade. . . . Democrats believe every woman should be able to access high quality reproductive health care services, including safe and legal abortion.

We oppose and will fight to overturn federal and state laws that create barriers to women’s reproductive health and rights.” ([2020 Democratic Party Platform, 39, 42](#))

Republican Party

“The Constitution’s guarantee that no one can ‘be deprived of life, liberty or property’ deliberately echoes the Declaration of Independence’s proclamation that ‘all’ are ‘endowed by their Creator’ with the inalienable right to life. Accordingly, we assert the sanctity of human life and affirm that the unborn child has a fundamental right to life which cannot be infringed. We support a human life amendment to the Constitution and legislation to make clear that the Fourteenth Amendment’s protections apply to children before birth.” ([Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 13](#))

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother’s womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. (Ps 139:13-15)

Father God, we pray that Your Holy Spirit, who convicts of sin and righteousness, would go throughout this land and convict every single person of Your great love for them and of Your destiny and value for every person. Let Your truth about the value of every life overwhelm us and our nation’s leaders.

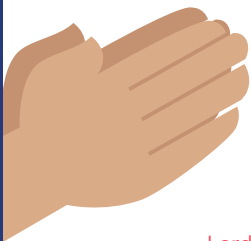
Religious Freedom

Democratic Party

“Democrats celebrate America’s history of religious pluralism and tolerance, and recognize the countless acts of service of our faith communities, as well as the paramount importance of maintaining the separation between church and state enshrined in our Constitution.” ([2020 Democratic Party Platform, 48](#))

Republican Party

“We value the right of America’s religious leaders to preach, and Americans to speak freely, according to their faith. Republicans believe the federal government, specifically the IRS, is constitutionally prohibited from policing or censoring speech based on religious convictions or beliefs We pledge to defend the religious beliefs and rights of conscience of all Americans and to safeguard religious institutions against government control. . . . [W]e strongly support the freedom of Americans to act in accordance with their religious beliefs, not only in their houses of worship, but also in their everyday lives.” ([Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 11-12](#))



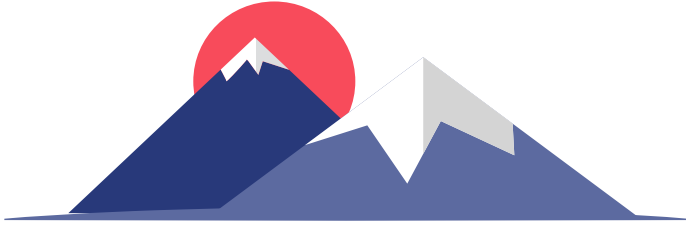
So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed. (Jn 8:36)

Lord God, we thank You for the freedoms guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution and Bill of Rights, all of which we can recognize because of what You have done for us and our nation. We pray that You would preserve in our nation our ability to exercise freely the rights that You have endowed to us.

Environment

Democratic Party

“Climate change is a global emergency. We have no time to waste in taking action to protect Americans’ lives and futures.” ([2020 Democratic Party Platform, 49](#))



Republican Party

“Conservation is inherent in conservatism. As the pioneer of environmentalism a century ago, the Republican Party reaffirms the moral obligation to be good stewards of the God-given natural beauty and resources of our country. We assert that private ownership has been the best guarantee of conscientious stewardship, while some of the worst instances of degradation have occurred under government control.” ([Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 21](#))

Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.” (Gen 1:26)

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. (Gen 2:15)

Lord, please help us to be wise stewards of Your creation that You put in our charge. May we be motivated by truth and love — not captivated by fear.

Marriage and Sexuality

Democratic Party

“Democrats applaud this year’s U.S. Supreme Court decision that made clear that employment discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity violates the law . . . We will fight to enact the Equality Act . . . We will work to ensure LGBTQ+ people are not discriminated against when seeking to adopt or foster children, protect LGBTQ+ children from bullying and assault, and guarantee transgender students’ access to facilities based on their gender identity.” ([2020 Democratic Party Platform, 42](#))

Republican Party

“Foremost among those institutions is the American family. It is the foundation of civil society, and the cornerstone of the family is natural marriage, the union of one man and one woman. . . . [We oppose the imposition of] a social and cultural revolution upon the American people by wrongly redefining sex discrimination . . . reshap[ing] . . . our entire society — to fit the mold of an ideology alien to America’s history and traditions.” ([Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 31, 35](#))

So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. (Gen 1:27)

Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things. (Heb 13:18)

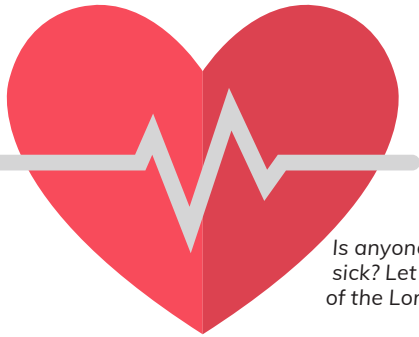
Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. (Heb 13:4)

Creator God, thank You that our value and personhood is based on being created by You, in Your image, and that we are created fearfully and wonderfully. Let our laws and our leaders reflect this truth and reflect Your commands about what marriage is.

Health Care

Democratic Party

“Democrats have fought to achieve universal health care for a century. We are proud to be the party of Medicare, Medicaid, and the Affordable Care Act. . . . [W]e fundamentally believe health care is a right for all . . .” ([2020 Democratic Party Platform, 26-27](#))



Republican Party

“Any honest agenda for improving healthcare must start with repeal of the dishonestly named Affordable Care Act It has driven up prices for all consumers. Their insurance premiums have dramatically increased while their deductibles have risen about eight times faster than wages in the last ten years. . . . It must be removed and replaced with an approach based on genuine competition, patient choice, excellent care, wellness, and timely access to treatment.” ([Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 36](#))

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. (Gal 6:2)

Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. (Jas 5:13)

Lord Jesus, You are the master healer and the One who cleared out the money-changers in the temple. Please look down on us and divinely inspire those who can bring ethics and excellent healthcare to our country. May those who suffer with health problems and financial worries be drawn to You for solace.

Economy

Democratic Party

“Democrats will forge a new social and economic contract with the American people—a contract that creates millions of new jobs and promotes shared prosperity, closes racial gaps in income and wealth, guarantees the right to join or form a union, raises wages and ensures equal pay for women and paid family leave for all, and safeguards a secure and dignified retirement.” ([2020 Democratic Party Platform, 6](#))



Republican Party

“Government cannot create prosperity, though government can limit or destroy it. Prosperity is the product of self-discipline, enterprise, saving and investment by individuals, but it is not an end in itself. Prosperity provides the means by which citizens and their families can maintain their independence from government, raise their children by their own values, practice their faith, and build communities of cooperation and mutual respect. It is also the foundation for our nation's global leadership, for it is the vigor of our economy which makes possible our military strength and our national security.” ([Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 1](#))

For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. (1 Tm 6:10)

But if anyone does not provide for his relatives, and especially for members of his household, he has denied the faith and is worse than an unbeliever. (1 Tm 5:8)

Father God, we pray for an economic system that encourages and rewards the biblical values of hard work and personal generosity. We pray for governmental plans and policies that would discourage debt and greed and encourage wisdom in how we use our money, as individuals and as a nation.

Racism

Democratic Party

“Democrats will root out structural and systemic racism in our economy and our society, and reform our criminal justice system from top to bottom, because we believe Black lives matter. . . . We will give hate no safe harbor. We will never amplify or legitimize the voices of bigotry, racism, misogyny, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia, or white supremacy. Democrats will protect and promote the equal rights of all our citizens We commit ourselves to the vision articulated by Frederick Douglass of “a Government founded upon justice, and recognizing the equal rights of all.” ([2020 Democratic Party Platform, 6](#))

Republican Party

“We denounce bigotry, racism, anti-Semitism, ethnic prejudice, and religious intolerance. Therefore, we oppose discrimination based on race, sex, religion, creed, disability, or national origin and support statutes to end such discrimination. As the Party of Abraham Lincoln, we must continue to foster solutions to America’s difficult challenges when it comes to race relations today. We continue to encourage equality for all citizens and access to the American Dream. Merit and hard work should determine advancement in our society, so we reject unfair preferences, quotas, and set-asides” ([Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 9](#))

The God who made the world and everything in it, being Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in temples made by man, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything. And he made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined allotted periods and the boundaries of their dwelling place, that they should seek God, and perhaps feel their way toward him and find him. Yet he is actually not far from each one of us . . . (Acts 17:24-27)

Father, forgive us for all the sins of injustice in our nation. Please heal our prejudices and help us to truly see one another as you see us.

Immigration

Democratic Party

“Democrats support policies and programs to make it easier for qualified immigrants and their families to become full and equal citizens, including increasing funding for culturally appropriate immigrant inclusion and citizenship services, legal support, English classes and bilingual education, workforce development, and adult education.” ([2020 Democratic Party Platform, 64](#))

Republican Party

“Our party is the natural home for those who come in search of freedom and justice. We welcome all to the Great Opportunity Party. The greatest asset of the American economy is the American worker. Our immigration system must protect American working families and their wages, for citizens and legal immigrants alike, in a way that will improve the economy.” ([Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 25](#))

Thus says the Lord of hosts, “Render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another, do not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the sojourner, or the poor, and let none of you devise evil against another in your heart.” (Zec 7:9-10)

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. . . . (Rom 13:1-3)

Lord, we pray for peace in our land, and wisdom for those in leadership. We ask that righteousness and justice would prevail, for righteousness exalts a nation. Please give us insight on how we are to show kindness to foreigners even as we honor the citizens who live here.

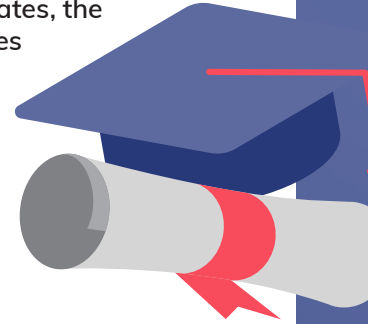
Education

Democratic Party

“As Democrats, we believe that education is a critical public good—not a commodity—and that it is the government’s responsibility to ensure that every child, everywhere, is able to receive a world-class education that enables them to lead meaningful lives, no matter their race, ZIP code, disability status, sexual orientation, gender identity, . . . or household income.” ([2020 Democratic Party Platform, 64](#))

Republican Party

“Parents are a child’s first and foremost educators, and have primary responsibility for the education of their children. Parents have a right to direct their children’s education, care, and upbringing. We support a constitutional amendment to protect that right from interference by states, the federal government, or international bodies such as the United Nations. We reject a one-size-fits-all approach to education and support a broad range of choices for parents and children at the state and local level.” ([Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 33](#))



And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. (Dt 6:6-7)

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it. (Prv 22:6)

My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge; because you have rejected knowledge, I reject you from being a priest to me. And since you have forgotten the law of your God, I also will forget your children. (Hos 4:6)

Lord, we pray for the education system in the U.S., for all the educators who pour countless hours into our students, and for our national, state, and local governments to rely on facts when deciding what is best for students, not politics or propaganda.

Israel

Democratic Party

“Democrats recognize the worth of every Israeli and every Palestinian. That’s why we will work to help bring to an end a conflict that has brought so much pain to so many. We support a negotiated two-state solution that ensures Israel’s future as a Jewish and democratic state with recognized borders and upholds the right of Palestinians to live in freedom and security in a viable state of their own. Democrats oppose any unilateral steps by either side—including annexation—that undermine prospects for two states.” ([2020 Democratic Party Platform, 91](#))

Republican Party

“Beyond our mutual strategic interests, Israel is likewise an exceptional country that shares our most essential values. It is the only country in the Middle East where freedom of speech and freedom of religion are found. Therefore, support for Israel is an expression of Americanism, and it is the responsibility of our government to advance policies that reflect Americans’ strong desire for a relationship with no daylight between America and Israel. . . . We oppose any measures intended to impose an agreement or to dictate borders or other terms, and we call for the immediate termination of all U.S. funding of any entity that attempts to do so. Our party is proud to stand with Israel now and always.” ([Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 47](#))

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem! “May they be secure who love you! Peace be within your walls and security within your towers!” For my brothers and companions’ sake I will say, “Peace be within you!” For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good. (Ps 122:6-9)

Lord, You have not forgotten or rejected Your ancient people, Israel. You are a faithful God who keeps covenant and loves unconditionally. Thank You that You are again showing Your compassion to the Jewish people. Help us to love those whom You love – those who are “engraved on the palms of (Your) hands.”

Gun Ownership

Democratic Party

“Democrats will enact universal background checks, end online sales of guns and ammunition, close dangerous loopholes that currently allow stalkers and some individuals convicted of assault or battery to buy and possess firearms, and adequately fund the federal background check system. . . Democrats will ban the manufacture and sale of assault weapons and high capacity magazines. . . And Democrats believe that gun companies should be held responsible for their products, just like any other business, and will prioritize repealing the law that shields gun manufacturers from civil liability.” ([2020 Democratic Party Platform, 47-48](#))

Republican Party

“We uphold the right of individuals to keep and bear arms, a natural inalienable right that predates the Constitution and is secured by the Second Amendment. Lawful gun ownership enables Americans to exercise their God-given right of self-defense for the safety of their homes, their loved ones, and their communities. . . We support firearm reciprocity legislation to recognize the right of law-abiding Americans to carry firearms to protect themselves and their families in all 50 states. We support constitutional carry statutes and salute the states that have passed them. . . . We also oppose any effort to deprive individuals of their right to keep and bear arms without due process of law.” ([Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 12-13](#))

Wisdom is better than weapons of war, but one sinner destroys much good. (Eccl 9:18)

And he said to them, “When I sent you out with no moneybag or knapsack or sandals, did you lack anything?” They said, “Nothing.” He said to them, “But now let the one who has a moneybag take it, and likewise a knapsack. And let the one who has no sword sell his cloak and buy one. For I tell you that this Scripture must be fulfilled in me: ‘And he was numbered with the transgressors.’ For what is written about me has its fulfillment.” And they said, “Look, Lord, here are two swords.” And he said to them, “It is enough.” (Lk 22:35-39)

Lord, help us to be good stewards of our freedoms and smart with our laws. Guide our lawmakers to protect our freedoms, maintaining a society free from the tyranny of evil men.

National Security

Democratic Party

“Democrats believe that we can only be strong in the world when we are strong and united at home. We believe that a healthy democracy, just society, and inclusive economy are essential prerequisites for effective American leadership abroad. And we believe that the ultimate measure—and purpose—of our foreign policy is whether it protects and advances America’s security, prosperity and values—and delivers results for all Americans. . . . We will ensure that our military has no peer. . . . And, most importantly, Democrats will ensure that the reinvention of American leadership abroad prioritizes and accelerates our renewal at home. We will root a disciplined foreign policy in the needs and aspirations of the American middle class and the imperative of building a more dynamic, fair, and resilient society—the ultimate wellspring of our power.” ([2020 Democratic Party Platform, 72-73](#))

Republican Party

“We are the party of peace through strength. . . . Tyranny and injustice thrive when America is weakened. The oppressed have no greater ally than a confident and determined United States, backed by the strongest military on the planet. . . . We affirm our party’s tradition of world leadership established by President Eisenhower and followed by every Republican president since. It stands for enormous power — and the prudence to use it sparingly, precisely, and only in grave necessity. It stands for involvement, not intervention. It requires consultation, not permission to act. It leads from the front — and ensures all others do their parts as well. It embraces American exceptionalism and rejects the false prophets of decline and diminution.” ([Republican Party Platform 2016/2020, 41, 46](#))

One man of you puts to flight a thousand, since it is the Lord your God who fights for you, just as he promised you. (Joshua 23:10)

Blessed be the Lord, my rock, who trains my hands for war, and my fingers for battle . . . (Ps 144:1)

Lord, we pray for a hedge of protection for the U.S. Help expose all evil schemes against our nation and guide our leaders in all aspects of foreign policy and national security.



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