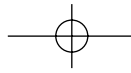


Contents

| | |
|---|------|
| Foreword by Senator Robert P. Casey Jr. | vii |
| Acknowledgments | xi |
| Introduction | xiii |
| 1. The Common Good | 1 |
| Origins of the Common Good | 3 |
| A Catholic Vision of the Common Good | 4 |
| Restoring the Common Good | 9 |
| Challenges to the Common Good | 9 |
| Building a Culture of the Common Good | 10 |
| Rebuilding the Common Good for Our Families, Jobs, and Environment | 14 |
| 2. The Catholic Social Tradition | 19 |
| Surprising or Familiar? | 20 |
| Key Themes of the Catholic Social Tradition | 23 |
| The Dignity of the Human Person | 24 |
| The Common Good | 24 |
| Solidarity | 25 |
| Subsidiarity | 25 |
| The Preferential Option for the Poor | 26 |
| The Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers | 26 |
| Rights, Responsibilities, Participation | 27 |
| Universal Destination of Goods | 27 |
| Stewardship of God's Creation | 28 |
| Peace | 28 |
| | iii |

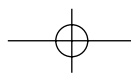
iv CONTENTS

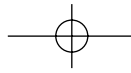
| | | |
|----|--|-----|
| | Popes and Principles | 29 |
| | The Workers' Pope: Leo XIII | 29 |
| | The Social Justice Pope: Pius XI | 31 |
| | A Pope for the Common Good: John XXIII | 32 |
| | Engaging the World: Vatican II | 33 |
| | The Human Development Pope: Paul VI | 34 |
| | The Life and Social Justice Pope: John Paul II | 35 |
| | The Pope of Love and Hope: Benedict XVI | 37 |
| | Living the Catholic Social Tradition | 39 |
| 3. | Church and State | 43 |
| | The Truth About Separation | 46 |
| | A Place for Faith | 48 |
| | The Importance of Compromise | 51 |
| | Church and State in the Catholic Tradition | 53 |
| | Political Compromise and the Culture of Life | 57 |
| 4. | Voting Catholic | 65 |
| | Catholics and the Religious Right | 67 |
| | Theology and the Politics of Division | 73 |
| | Voting for the Common Good | 78 |
| | Inform Your Conscience | 79 |
| | Use Prudence | 79 |
| | Vote for the Common Good | 80 |
| | Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship | 81 |
| 5. | An Agenda for the Common Good | 83 |
| | Poverty: The Root of All Problems | 86 |
| | Abortion | 92 |
| | The Global Climate Crisis | 96 |
| | Health Care | 98 |
| | War | 100 |
| | Immigration | 102 |
| 6. | Practicing the Common Good | 105 |
| | Conviction or Cowardice? | 109 |
| | Civility or Destruction? | 112 |



CONTENTS v

| | |
|--|-----|
| Compromise or Disengagement? | 115 |
| Persuasion or Coercion? | 118 |
| Faith, Politics, and the Future of America | 119 |
| Resources on Catholic Social Teaching and the Common Good | 125 |
| Election Day Checklist | 137 |
| The Authors | 139 |
| Index | 141 |





*“He that seeks the good of the many, seeks in consequence
his own good.”*

—Saint Thomas Aquinas

