



STEWARDS OF OUR EARTH All of God's Creation

Social Justice Committee, Holy Cross Parish, Mt. Airy, April 30, 2023

Philadelphia Heads to the Polls on Primary Election Day

Philadelphians will head to the polls on **May 16, 2023**, to select party nominees to serve as the city's 100th Mayor, City Council, Controller's Office, City Commissioners, Sheriff, and Register of Wills. Voters will also choose nominees for a slate of municipal and statewide judges.

Voters in Pennsylvania can vote in person, by mail, or by absentee ballot. All three methods are safe and secure! Voters who want to vote by mail or by absentee ballot should be sure to request their ballot by the May 9th deadline. (*Committee of Seventy*, 4/17/23)

"The people elected this year will have power over some of the most basic levels of government, from public school operations and budgets on the local level, to hugely consequential interpretations of state law in appellate courts" (Katie Meyer and Kate Huangpu, *Spotlight PA*, 4/12/23).



Important Deadlines in Pennsylvania

PA deadline to register to vote: May 1, 2023

PA deadline to request a mail-in ballot: May 9, 2023

PA Primary Election Day: May 16, 2023

[Register to Vote](#) or [Check Your Voter Registration Status](#)

Citizens registered as Democrat or Republican are eligible to vote in the primaries. "If you're one of **PA's 1.1 million independent voters**, you'd be forgiven for not having it circled on your calendar. That's because Pennsylvania's closed primary system bars independent and unaffiliated voters from participating – even though the primaries are the decisive contest in districts across the Commonwealth.

We've launched a new action campaign for you to tell your Pennsylvania Representative to **support pending legislation to grant independent voters the right to vote** in the same elections for which they already help foot the \$75 million annual bill." Click here to [Take Action Now](#). (*Ballot PA*, 4/19/23)

"Using our voices to fulfill our civic duty and vote in every election makes a difference in our communities – and our world. Your vote is how you can speak up for our common home and our neighbors. **Voting is how we create a society based on our shared values.**" (*Interfaith Power & Light*)

Some non-partisan resources for voting guides are Committee of Seventy, League of Women Voters, and Spotlight PA.

"True statecraft is manifest when, in difficult times, we uphold high principles and think of the long-term common good." -- Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* #178