



MARYKNOLL OFFICE FOR GLOBAL CONCERNS
Peace, Social Justice and Integrity of Creation
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Maryknoll Leadership Issues Statement on 2020 U.S Elections

WASHINGTON, DC — With less than two weeks left until the United States’ presidential and congressional elections, the leadership of the Maryknoll Sisters, Fathers and Brothers, Lay Missioners, and Affiliates issued a [joint statement](#) calling for safe, free, and fair elections and for candidates, voters, and election officials to “act truly in the service of the common good.”

Representing Maryknoll missioners and affiliates in 26 countries, the leaders of the four branches of Maryknoll mission acknowledge the importance of U.S. elections for people around the world, particularly the vulnerable, and the importance of U.S. leadership in promoting democratic norms and fair elections. They write that leading up to this election, “We are alarmed by the parallels we see between emerging conditions in the United States and those we have witnessed at times in other countries during more than one hundred years of mission when elections have not been transparent, inclusive, and accountable.”

The leadership calls for an end to divisive language, voter suppression, and misinformation and for U.S. officials to make every effort possible to ensure safe and fair elections and a peaceful transition of power. They call on voters to make a voting plan, vote early, to remain patient for election results, and to keep the world’s most impoverished people in mind.

Read the full statement [here](#).

“The COVID-19 pandemic has exposed inequality and injustice in the United States and around the world like never before,” said Susan Gunn, Director of the Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns. “Now is the time to call on our strengths — democracy, constitutional order and the rule of law — to bring us together to care for each other and care for the common good. As the United States has demonstrated for more than 200 years, safe, free, and fair elections have the power to change our world.”

The Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns (MOGC) represents Maryknoll missioners, who are Catholic men and women serving in impoverished communities around the world. The MOGC provides analysis and advocacy on issues of justice, peace and the integrity of creation that affect the countries and communities where Maryknoll missioners serve.

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