

Statement of Rights and Responsibilities of Catholics

Rights

1. All Catholics have the right to belong to a Eucharistic community.
2. All Catholics have the right to have access to all the sacraments.
3. All Catholics have the right to speak and act in accord with an informed conscience.
4. All Catholics have the right to have meaningful participation in decision making, including the selection of leaders and representatives.
5. All Catholics have the right to participate in the development of Church teaching in that all teaching must be consistent with the “sense of the faithful”.
6. All Catholics have the right to be eligible for selection to leadership roles.

Responsibilities

1. All Catholics have the responsibility to follow the teachings of Jesus.
2. All Catholics have the responsibility to pray and reflect.
3. All Catholics have the responsibility to receive the sacraments regularly.
4. All Catholics have the responsibility to continue to grow in their adult faith through scripture, theology, and Church history.
5. All Catholics have the responsibility to participate in the Catholic community, sharing their resources, talents and gifts.
6. All Catholics have the responsibility to work for the incorporation of Christian values in society, including justice, peace, and the integrity of creation.

This statement was created by a committee appointed by Voice of the Faithful, Santa Barbara in response to the September 2010 proposal from the American Catholic Council. At the general meeting of the chapter on 1/24/11 a nearly unanimous majority voted to send this statement to the ACC leadership.