

## A Prayer for Christian Political Gatherings

O God, we acknowledge you today as Lord,  
Not only of individuals, but of nations and governments.

We thank you for the privilege  
Of being able to organize ourselves politically  
And of knowing that political loyalty  
Does not have to mean disloyalty to you.

We thank you for your law,  
Which our Founding Fathers acknowledged  
And recognized as higher than any human law.

We thank you for the opportunity that this election year puts before us,  
To exercise our solemn duty not only to vote,  
But to influence countless others to vote,  
And to vote correctly.

Lord, we pray that your people may be awakened.  
Let them realize that while politics is not their salvation,  
Their response to you requires that they be politically active.

Awaken your people to know that they are not called to be a sect fleeing the world  
But rather a community of faith renewing the world.

Awaken them that the same hands lifted up to you in prayer  
Are the hands that pull the lever in the voting booth;  
That the same eyes that read your Word  
Are the eyes that read the names on the ballot,  
And that they do not cease to be Christians  
When they enter the voting booth.

Awaken your people to a commitment to justice  
To the sanctity of marriage and the family,  
To the dignity of each individual human life,  
And to the truth that human rights begin when human lives begin,  
And not one moment later.

Lord, we rejoice today  
That we are citizens of your kingdom.

May that make us all the more committed  
To being faithful citizens on earth.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*--Fr. Frank Pavone, Priests for Life*