



A man casts his vote in 2017 at Holy Cross Catholic Church in Tucker, Ga. (CNS/Chris Aluka Berry, Reuters)

by NCR Staff

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In recent weeks, NCR reporters have been traveling across the country to understand Catholic voters and what will influence their vote.

On the show today:

- Michael Sean Winters, who analyzes religion and politics for NCR.
- Heidi Schlumpf, NCR national correspondent based in Chicago.
- Brian Roewe, NCR staff writer.
- Maria Benevento, NCR Bertelsen intern.

Background reading:

- In a recent Distinctly Catholic column, Michael Sean Winters [examines a new report](#) that points to the majority of Americans who resent the dominance of the extremes in U.S. public discussion. Part two of his midterms series [looks at a current polling](#) and some of the institutionalized hurdles to change. [His third column](#) on the midterm elections underlines the mood: "In the midterms this year, however, issues don't matter. The president is running on fear. "
- Swing voters in Ohio — many of them Catholic — [will likely determine the winner](#) of a dead-heat midterm congressional race that observers see as a possible predictor of the 2020 presidential election, reports Heidi Schlumpf.
- Maria Benevento reports from El Paso: In response to low voter turnout, local Catholic leaders and advocates are [working to promote voting](#), which some characterize as both an exercise of the moral duty to promote justice and a way to ensure that the concerns of all — including those who are most vulnerable and marginalized — are included in political decision-making. Latinos, who make up the majority of Catholics under 18 and are likely the future majority of the church, [might be the answer](#) sought by those concerned with representing the totality of Catholic teaching in politics.
- Watch this space: On Monday, we'll publish and link here to Brian Roewe's piece on midterm concerns in Iowa that show a rural-urban split.

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