2026 CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE · FLORIDA · LETTERS FROM LEO

U.S. House, District 11

Open seat (Rep. Daniel Webster is not seeking reelection). District lines redrawn for 2026.



James Pericola

DEMOCRAT · OPEN SEAT

Attorney and founder of a government policy consulting firm.



Joe Strada

REPUBLICAN · OPEN SEAT

Owner of Strada Services, an air conditioning, electrical, security and plumbing business.

Where the candidates stand on the issues Pope Leo XIV has raised, in their own words and votes. Bracketed numbers link to sources. We do not rate, score, or endorse candidates.

WAR & PEACE

POPE LEO XIV *Leo invited citizens of every country involved in the war with Iran to contact their leaders and members of Congress "to work for peace and to reject war and violence."* Remarks at Castel Gandolfo, Apr. 7, 2026 (Vatican News via The Good Newsroom)

JAMES PERICOLA

No public position found.

JOE STRADA

No public position found.

AI & THE DIGNITY OF WORK

POPE LEO XIV *"No one can be reduced to productivity, to cognitive performance, or to mere data."* Magnifica Humanitas presentation, May 25, 2026

JAMES PERICOLA

No public position found.

JOE STRADA

No public position found.

THE POOR & THE SAFETY NET

POPE LEO XIV *The preferential choice for the poor is "a source of extraordinary renewal both for the Church and for society."* Dilexi Te, Oct. 4, 2025

JAMES PERICOLA

Says he will "restore Medicaid funding, and strengthen the Affordable Care Act," protect Medicare and Social Security and expand premium tax credits.

[1] WKMG/Vox Populi voters guide, District 11

JOE STRADA

No public position found.

ELECTIONS & CIVIC LIFE

POPE LEO XIV *Authentic democracy, "far from being a mere procedure," "recognizes the dignity of every person and calls each citizen to participate responsibly in the pursuit of the common good."* Message to the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences, Apr. 9, 2026

JAMES PERICOLA

Says he would "pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Act, end partisan gerrymandering" and defend free and fair elections.

[1] WKMG/Vox Populi voters guide, District 11

JOE STRADA

No public position found.

LIFE OF THE UNBORN

POPE LEO XIV *Abortion "cuts short a growing life and refuses to welcome the gift of life."* Address to the Diplomatic Corps, Jan. 9, 2026

JAMES PERICOLA

No public position found.

JOE STRADA

No public position found.

THE DEATH PENALTY

POPE LEO XIV *Someone who opposes abortion but favors the death penalty "is not really pro-life."* AP via PBS NewsHour, Sept. 30, 2025

JAMES PERICOLA

No public position found.

JOE STRADA

No public position found.

IMMIGRANTS & REFUGEES

POPE LEO XIV *"Defending human life also includes welcoming, protecting and assisting immigrants."* Letter on the 250th Anniversary of the United States, June 25, 2026

JAMES PERICOLA

No public position found.

JOE STRADA

No public position found.

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY & EDUCATION

POPE LEO XIV *Religious freedom is "the right of every person to worship according to conscience."* Letter on the 250th Anniversary of the United States, June 25, 2026

JAMES PERICOLA

Lists "freedom of religion" among the constitutional rights he pledges to defend.

[1] WKMG/Vox Populi voters guide, District 11

JOE STRADA

No public position found.

CARE FOR CREATION

POPE LEO XIV *"We cannot love God, whom we cannot see, while despising his creatures."* AP, Oct. 1, 2025

JAMES PERICOLA

Says companies creating major new energy demand "should help pay for the infrastructure" and supports Everglades restoration and flood infrastructure.

[1] WKMG/Vox Populi voters guide, District 11

JOE STRADA

No public position found.

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