2026 CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE · FLORIDA · LETTERS FROM LEO

U.S. House, District 24

Open seat (Rep. Frederica Wilson withdrew from the Democratic primary). Rated Solid Democratic by Cook Political Report. District lines redrawn for 2026.



Tedora Brown

REPUBLICAN · OPEN SEAT

Real estate developer and former teacher; earlier in 2026 a Republican candidate in Illinois' 11th District.



Oliver Gilbert

DEMOCRAT · OPEN SEAT

Member of the Miami-Dade County Commission; former mayor of Miami Gardens.

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)

TEDORA BROWN

No public position found.

OLIVER GILBERT

Criticizes the Trump administration for a war residents "didn't ask for, didn't vote for, and don't need."

[1] Gilbert campaign: Issues

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

TEDORA BROWN

Supports H-1B reforms that put "American workers first" and bar using the visas to undercut wages or replace qualified Americans.

[1] Te Brown for Congress: Issues

OLIVER GILBERT

Proposes job training in "high-paying technical fields that can't easily be taken away by AI" and incentives for employee ownership and profit-sharing.

[1] Gilbert campaign: Issues

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

TEDORA BROWN

Supports redirecting federal housing dollars from long-term rental subsidies toward helping low-income families buy homes, and pledges to protect Social Security and Medicare.

[1] Te Brown for Congress: Issues
[2] Te Brown for Congress: People First Agenda

OLIVER GILBERT

Says he "will fight for a pathway to ensure that healthcare is a right for every American" and supports universal child care and pre-K and eliminating income taxes for working families.

[1] Gilbert campaign: Issues

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

TEDORA BROWN

No public position found.

OLIVER GILBERT

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

TEDORA BROWN

In a 2026 candidate survey for her Illinois House race, listed protecting "vulnerable not yet born babies and all right to life issues" among her concerns.

[1] Ballotpedia: Tedora Brown (2026 survey)

OLIVER GILBERT

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

TEDORA BROWN

No public position found.

OLIVER GILBERT

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

TEDORA BROWN

Supports securing the border and removing criminals, plus an "earned path to citizenship" for long-time Haitian TPS holders — "not amnesty."

[1] Te Brown for Congress: Issues

OLIVER GILBERT

Says "it's time to end funding for these shameful deportation policies" and redirect the money to communities; his campaign calls to "Stop ICE Raids Now."

[1] Gilbert campaign: Issues

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

TEDORA BROWN

Supports school choice, saying federal education dollars should follow students to public, charter, private or home schools.

[1] Te Brown for Congress: Issues

OLIVER GILBERT

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

TEDORA BROWN

No public position found.

OLIVER GILBERT

No public position found.

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