2026 CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE · LOUISIANA · LETTERS FROM LEO

U.S. House, District 4

Incumbent Mike Johnson (R) seeks re-election. Under Louisiana's 2026 format, all candidates appear on one Nov. 3 ballot regardless of party; a majority winner is elected outright, otherwise the top two meet on Dec. 12. District lines redrawn in May 2026 after the Supreme Court's Louisiana v. Callais ruling.



Conrad Cable

DEMOCRAT · CHALLENGER

First-generation farmer and small-business owner from north Louisiana.



Matthew Gromlich

DEMOCRAT · CHALLENGER

Shreveport educator and researcher with a Ph.D. from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.



Gordon Heslop

REPUBLICAN · CHALLENGER

Retired accounting professor at Northwestern State University and East Texas A&M; describes himself as an "anti-Trump Republican."



Mike Johnson

REPUBLICAN · INCUMBENT

Speaker of the U.S. House.

MN

Mike Nichols

REPUBLICAN · CHALLENGER

Republican candidate; no published biography found.

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)

CONRAD CABLE

No public position found.

MATTHEW GROMLICH

Proposes cutting military contractor budgets to fund troop housing and services, and to "reevaluate wasteful spending abroad."

[1] Gromlich campaign: Priorities
[2] Ballotpedia: Matthew Gromlich

GORDON HESLOP

Strongly supports Ukraine against Russia's invasion and criticizes Trump's "Putin friendly handling of Ukraine."

[1] Heslop campaign site

MIKE JOHNSON

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

VOTING RECORD

Iran war powers resolutions, Mar.–Sept. 2026 (six House votes): **No** Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Sept.
No Ukraine Support Act (H.R. 2913), June 2026 — authorizes support for Ukraine

MIKE NICHOLS

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

CONRAD CABLE

Pledges to raise wages, "protect unions" and defend workers' "right to organize."

[1] Cable campaign site

MATTHEW GROMLICH

Calls for moratoriums on new data centers until they are shown not to harm families, land and water, and for regulating utility monopolies.

[1] Gromlich campaign: Priorities

GORDON HESLOP

Backs a significant increase in trades training and a legislative fix so federal workers are paid during shutdowns.

[1] Heslop campaign site

MIKE JOHNSON

No campaign statement found.

See voting record below.

VOTING RECORD

No Protect America's Workforce Act (H.R. 2550), Dec. 2025 — nullifies the executive order ending union bargaining for many federal workers

No Faster Labor Contracts Act (H.R. 5408), June 2026 — sets deadlines for reaching first union contracts

MIKE NICHOLS

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

CONRAD CABLE

Supports Medicare for All, opposes Medicaid cuts and proposes USDA-run public grocery stores in rural and low-income areas where SNAP, WIC and EBT recipients can buy fresh food.

[1] Cable campaign site

MATTHEW GROMLICH

Proposes a $15 federal minimum wage with small-business subsidies, universal school meals, expanded tax credits and health care "free at the point of service."

[1] Gromlich campaign: Priorities
[2] Ballotpedia: Matthew Gromlich

GORDON HESLOP

Supports raising the minimum wage, improving rural health services and preventive screening, and a policy he says would save Social Security.

[1] Heslop campaign site

MIKE JOHNSON

No campaign statement found.

See voting record below.

VOTING RECORD

Yes One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1), final passage July 2025 — tax cuts with Medicaid and SNAP changes

No Breaking the Gridlock Act (H.R. 1834), Jan. 2026 — extends enhanced ACA premium tax credits through 2028

MIKE NICHOLS

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

CONRAD CABLE

Supports the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and "strong federal laws to protect voting rights."

[1] Ballotpedia: Conrad Cable
[2] Cable campaign site

MATTHEW GROMLICH

No public position found.

GORDON HESLOP

Says Biden won the 2020 election and Trump's claims that it was rigged are false and "need to stop"; opposed pardons of January 6 defendants who assaulted police.

[1] Heslop campaign site
[2] Ballotpedia: Gordon Heslop

MIKE JOHNSON

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

VOTING RECORD

Yes Objection to counting Arizona's 2020 electoral votes, Jan. 6, 2021 — a Yes vote supported the objection (failed, 121–303)

Yes Objection to counting Pennsylvania's 2020 electoral votes, Jan. 7, 2021 — a Yes vote supported the objection (failed, 138–282)

No For the People Act (H.R. 1), Mar. 2021 — automatic and same-day voter registration, expanded mail and early voting, campaign-finance and ethics rules

No Presidential Election Reform Act (H.R. 8873), Sept. 2022 — says the vice president's role in counting electoral votes is ministerial and raises the threshold for objections

Yes SAVE America Act (House amendment to S. 1383), Feb. 2026 — requires documentary proof of citizenship to register and photo ID to vote in federal elections

MIKE NICHOLS

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

CONRAD CABLE

No public position found.

MATTHEW GROMLICH

Says "bodily autonomy and gender-affirming care must be protected as fundamental rights"; also proposes expanding rural maternity and prenatal care.

[1] Gromlich campaign: Priorities

GORDON HESLOP

No public position found.

MIKE JOHNSON

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

VOTING RECORD

Yes Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act (H.R. 21), Jan. 2025 — requires care for infants born alive after an attempted abortion

Yes Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act (H.R. 6945), Jan. 2026 — lets states use TANF funds for pregnancy centers

MIKE NICHOLS

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

CONRAD CABLE

No public position found.

MATTHEW GROMLICH

No public position found.

GORDON HESLOP

No public position found.

MIKE JOHNSON

No public position found.

MIKE NICHOLS

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

CONRAD CABLE
No public position found.

MATTHEW GROMLICH
No public position found.

GORDON HESLOP
Credits Trump for "sealing the southern border"; backs banning and defunding sanctuary cities and ending "chain migration."

[1] Heslop campaign site

MIKE JOHNSON
No campaign statement found.

See voting record below.

VOTING RECORD

Yes Laken Riley Act (S. 5), Jan. 2025 — requires detention of undocumented immigrants charged with theft and certain crimes

Yes Secure America Act (S. 2), June 2026 — reconciliation funding for ICE and Customs and Border Protection

No Haiti TPS bill (H.R. 1689), Apr. 2026 — requires temporary protected status for Haitians

MIKE NICHOLS
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

CONRAD CABLE
No public position found.

MATTHEW GROMLICH
No public position found.

GORDON HESLOP
Says "our Christian heritage is not up for negotiation" and opposes "sharia law," saying a nation can have only one legal system.

[1] Heslop campaign site

MIKE JOHNSON
No campaign statement found.

See voting record below.

VOTING RECORD

Yes One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1), July 2025 — created a federal tax credit for donations to K–12 scholarship organizations

MIKE NICHOLS
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

CONRAD CABLE
No public position found.

MATTHEW GROMLICH
Cites "cancer alley" and Shreveport river pollution; proposes federal water-system investment and moratoriums on data centers and carbon capture projects.

[1] Gromlich campaign: Priorities

GORDON HESLOP
No public position found.

MIKE JOHNSON
No campaign statement found.

See voting record below.

VOTING RECORD

Yes Resolution overturning EPA approval of California vehicle-emission rules (H.J.Res. 87), Apr. 2025

Yes Homeowner Energy Freedom Act (H.R. 4758), Feb. 2026 — repeals home-electrification rebates from the 2022 climate law

MIKE NICHOLS
No public position found.

Full guide and every race in Louisiana: standwithpopeleo.com/vote/louisiana/ · **Take the Pope Leo voter pledge:** standwithpopeleo.com/vote/

This guide does not endorse any candidate or party. Not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee. Positions are summarized from candidates' own statements, votes, and campaign materials, with sources linked. Published by *Letters from Leo*. Spot an error? Email cjh@christopherhale.com.