2026 CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE · MARYLAND · LETTERS FROM LEO

U.S. House, District 5

Open seat (Rep. Steny Hoyer, D, retiring).



Adrian Boafo

DEMOCRAT · OPEN SEAT

Maryland state delegate (District 23) since 2023.



Chris Chaffee

REPUBLICAN · OPEN SEAT

General contractor and farmer; repeat Republican congressional and Senate candidate.

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)

ADRIAN BOAFO

Backs Ukraine against Russia and would "Strengthen the U.S.–Israel alliance" while supporting humanitarian aid for Palestinians; wants Congress to enforce the War Powers Resolution.

[1] Ballotpedia: Adrian Boafo

CHRIS CHAFFEE

In 2024 opposed more military aid to Ukraine, saying "we must push for peace talks and diplomacy"; called to "free all hostages" held in Gaza.

[1] Ballotpedia: Chris Chaffee

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

ADRIAN BOAFO

Urges "Pass the PRO Act"; supports AI investment but says data centers should pay their fair share and use renewable energy.

[1] Ballotpedia: Adrian Boafo

CHRIS CHAFFEE

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

ADRIAN BOAFO

Supports Medicare for All with a public option, fully restoring Medicaid expansion, and raising the minimum wage "from $7.25 to $15 an hour."

[1] Ballotpedia: Adrian Boafo

CHRIS CHAFFEE

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

ADRIAN BOAFO

Calls to "Pass the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act" and supports automatic voter registration and expanded early voting.

[1] Ballotpedia: Adrian Boafo

CHRIS CHAFFEE

In 2024 said he would accept the presidential result once certified and legal challenges were resolved.

[1] Ballotpedia: Chris Chaffee

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

ADRIAN BOAFO

Pledges to "Protect a woman's right to choose and defend reproductive freedom"; co-sponsored a state abortion-access grant program.

[1] Ballotpedia: Adrian Boafo

CHRIS CHAFFEE

In a 2024 Baltimore Sun interview, said "No" when asked whether Congress should act to protect abortion rights after Dobbs.

[1] Ballotpedia: Chris Chaffee

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

ADRIAN BOAFO

No public position found.

CHRIS CHAFFEE

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

ADRIAN BOAFO

Calls to "Abolish ICE and pass comprehensive immigration reform," expand immigration courts and streamline work and family visas.

[1] Ballotpedia: Adrian Boafo

CHRIS CHAFFEE

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

ADRIAN BOAFO

No public position found.

CHRIS CHAFFEE

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

ADRIAN BOAFO

Supports a Climate Superfund "requiring major fossil fuel polluters to pay into a fund," plus Chesapeake Bay restoration, solar and offshore wind.

[1] Ballotpedia: Adrian Boafo

CHRIS CHAFFEE

No public position found.

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

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