2026 CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE · TENNESSEE · LETTERS FROM LEO

U.S. House, District 6

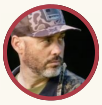
Open seat — incumbent John Rose (R) is not seeking re-election. District lines redrawn for 2026.



Mike Croley

DEMOCRAT · OPEN SEAT

Navy veteran, former NOAA Presidential Management Fellow and nonprofit founder.



Johnny Garrett

REPUBLICAN · OPEN SEAT

Attorney; Tennessee state representative since 2018.

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)

MIKE CROLEY

No public position found.

JOHNNY GARRETT

Says "Israel has a fundamental right to defend itself against terrorist organizations."

[1] Ballotpedia: Johnny Garrett

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

MIKE CROLEY

No public position found.

JOHNNY GARRETT

Says the United States "should be the world leader in advancing AI and emerging technologies."

[1] Ballotpedia: Johnny Garrett

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

MIKE CROLEY

Says he will "fight for fair wages, access to healthcare, and real investment in rural infrastructure."

[1] Ballotpedia: Mike Croley

JOHNNY GARRETT

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

MIKE CROLEY

No public position found.

JOHNNY GARRETT

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

MIKE CROLEY

No public position found.

JOHNNY GARRETT

Describes himself as "100% Pro-Life" and says life begins at conception.

[1] Ballotpedia: Johnny Garrett

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

MIKE CROLEY

No public position found.

JOHNNY GARRETT

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

MIKE CROLEY

No public position found.

JOHNNY GARRETT

Supports a physical border wall, a state "Border Czar" working with ICE, and Trump's use of the military and Guantanamo Bay for deportations.

[1] Ballotpedia: Johnny Garrett

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

MIKE CROLEY

No public position found.

JOHNNY GARRETT

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

MIKE CROLEY

Says "climate change is accelerating and threatening our food, water, and energy security" and lists environmental protection as a priority.

[1] Ballotpedia: Mike Croley

JOHNNY GARRETT

Supports "strong domestic energy infrastructure to power AI systems without burdening consumers."

[1] Ballotpedia: Johnny Garrett

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

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