



Politics and Holy Communion
Two recent articles in the Plain Dealer reported on politics, Church
teaching, and
the reception of Holy Communion

In the follow-up story, the [Plain Dealer](#) failed to publish Cleveland Bishop Anthony Pilla's entire statement when responding to an inquiry about Colorado Springs, Colorado Bishop Michael Sheridan's directive that those who do not vote in adherence to Catholic Teaching should not receive Eucharist.

Here is Bishop Pilla's [full](#) response:

"These matters are being discussed by the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and a special committee on domestic policy headed by Cardinal Theodore McCarrick of Washington D.C. The bishops are reviewing all of this in a very serious way to make certain, before making any statements, that they are consistent with Canon (Church) law.

I will not be making any statements before the body of Bishops issues its findings because it is very important that the people of the country receive a consistent message. The Catholic response should be the response of all of the Bishops of the United States. I believe it would be more helpful if done that way.

We, as Bishops, have always said that the people have a right to make their own decisions on whom to vote for, but have an obligation to understand the issues and Catholic moral teaching on these issues and apply those teachings to their decision-making. We abide by the principle that the Church does not oppose or endorse particular candidates, but does inform the faithful on authentic Catholic teaching on the issues."