



State of the Union Bingo: Pope Francis Edition!

Tune in to President Obama’s State of the Union address on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 9:00 pm ET, and use this BINGO card to find out if we are on track for Pope Francis’s visit to the U.S. at the end of the year.

In 2015, NETWORK will focus on two fronts that we believe are consistent with Pope Francis’s teachings: The first is federal policy **supporting the families of our nation**, such as investing in families by providing them with the tools they need to succeed, and focusing on structural inequality. The second focus is **promoting the politics of hope over fear** by supporting peacemaking and opposing militarization of our cities, our borders, and our world.


We have put together this BINGO card based on the values espoused by Pope Francis in preparation for his visit to the U.S. at the end of 2015. Some of the squares are policy ideas, some are broader qualities for government at its best, but all are consistent with Pope Francis and Catholic Social Tradition. We believe that if Congress and President Obama follow Pope Francis’s advice, we will succeed in supporting the families of our nation and promoting the politics of hope over fear.

INSTRUCTIONS: When the president speaks about a quality or policy that supports families and promotes politics of hope over fear, use our special Pope Francis BINGO pieces to cover that square. You can follow the endnotes to read the pope’s quotes. You get BINGO when you have five squares in a row—and people of faith and advocates for justice all win!



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B I N G O

Quality education for young people ¹	Stop exploiting laborers ²	Universal access to healthcare that saves lives ³	Close tax loopholes ⁴	Progressive tax reform ⁵
Healthcare measured by humanity, not efficiency ⁶	Choose peace over war ⁷	More women in leadership roles ⁸	Capture activism and energy of young people ⁹	Policies that people living in poverty ¹⁰
Pay a living wage ¹¹	Build strong friendships with international community ¹²	<i>Grace Space</i> 	Reverse the harmful effects of capitalism ¹³	Understand root causes of violence ¹⁴
Welfare programs are necessary but cannot replace structural change ¹⁵	Care for the environment ¹⁶	Alter the structures that cause poverty ¹⁷	Civility in our politics and more bipartisan compromise ¹⁸	Protect unaccompanied minors, asylum seekers, and refugees ¹⁹
Respect for global impact of U.S. policies ²⁰	Ensure everyone can exercise their right to vote ²¹	Government has unique role in promoting common good ²²	Welcome the migrant ²³	Continue and increase foreign aid ²⁴

¹ “[I]ntegral education cannot be reduced to the mere transmission of information for purposes of generating profit.”
(Visit to the Community of Varginha, Rio de Janeiro, 7/25/13)

² “How I wish that all of us would hear God’s cry: “Where is your brother?” (*Gen 4:9*). Where is your brother or sister who is enslaved? Where is the brother and sister whom you are killing each day in clandestine warehouses, in rings of prostitution, in children used for begging, in exploiting undocumented labour?” (*Evangelii Gaudium 211*)

³ “If investments in banks fall, it is a tragedy and people say ‘what are we going to do?’ but if people die of hunger, have nothing to eat or suffer from poor health, that’s nothing. This is our crisis today.” (Address to a Gathering of Catholic Associations in St. Peter’s Square, 5/18/13)

⁴ While the earnings of a minority are growing exponentially, so too is the gap separating the majority from the prosperity enjoyed by those happy few. This imbalance is the result of ideologies which defend the absolute autonomy of the marketplace and financial speculation...To all this we can add widespread corruption and self-serving tax evasion, which have taken on worldwide dimensions. The thirst for power and possessions knows no limits.”(*Evangelii Gaudium 56*)

⁵ “I encourage financial experts and political leaders to ponder the words of one of the sages of antiquity: ‘Not to share one’s wealth with the poor is to steal from them and to take away their livelihood. It is not our own good which we hold, but theirs.’”(57)

⁶ “There is no human life more sacred than another, just as there is no human life qualitatively more significant than another. The credibility of a healthcare system is not measured solely by efficiency, but above all by the attention and love given to the person, whose life is always sacred and inviolable.” (Address to International Federation of Catholic Medical Associations, 9/20/13)

⁷ “We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own personal powers and by the force of our arms... Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts, and give us the courage to say: ‘Never again war!’; ‘With war everything is lost.’” (Invocation for Peace, 6/9/14)

⁸ “The Church acknowledges the indispensable contribution which women make to society...Because ‘the feminine genius is needed in all expressions in the life of society, the presence of women must also be guaranteed in the workplace’ and in the various other settings where important decisions are made, both in the Church and in social structures.”(*Evangelii Gaudium 103*)

⁹ “We should recognize that despite the present crisis and commitment and communal relationships, many young people are making common cause before the problems of our world and are taking up various forms of activism and volunteer work... How beautiful it is to see that young people are ‘street preachers’ (*callejeros de la fe*), joyfully bringing Jesus to every street, every town square and every corner of the earth!”(106)

¹⁰ “Today and always, ‘the poor are the privileged recipients of the Gospel,’ and the fact that it is freely preached to them is a sign of the kingdom that Jesus came to establish. We have state, without mincing words, that there is an inseparable bond between our faith and the poor. May we never abandon them.”(*Evangelii Gaudium 48*)

¹¹ “A just wage enables [human beings] to have adequate access to all the other goods which are destined for our common use.”(*Evangelii Gaudium 192*)

¹² “To speak properly of our own rights, we need to broaden our perspective and to hear the plea of other people and other regions than those of our own country. We need to grow in a solidarity which ‘would allow all peoples to become the artisans of their destiny’, since ‘every person is called to self-fulfillment.’”(Evangelii Gaudium 190)

¹³ “Let's not consider this state of things irreversible; let's not resign ourselves to it. Let's search to construct a society and an economy where man and his good, and not money, may be the center.” (Interview with *La Stampa*, 1/11/15)

¹⁴ “Today in many places we hear a call for greater security. But until exclusion and inequality in society and between peoples are reversed, it will be impossible to eliminate violence.” (59)

¹⁵ “Welfare projects, which meet certain urgent needs, should be considered merely temporary responses. As long as the problems of the poor are not radically resolved by rejecting the absolute autonomy of markets and financial speculation and by attacking the structural causes of inequality, no solution will be found for the world's problems or, for that matter, to any problems.” (202)

¹⁶ “I wish to mention another threat to peace, which arises from the greedy exploitation of environmental resources. Even if ‘nature is at our disposition’, all too often we do not ‘respect it or consider it a gracious gift which we must care for and set at the service of our brothers and sisters, including future generations.” (Statement to Diplomatic Corps, 1/14/14)

¹⁷ “‘The Church, guided by the Gospel of mercy and by love for mankind, hears the cry for justice and intends to respond to it with all her might.’ In this context we can understand Jesus’ command to his disciples: ‘You yourselves give them something to eat!’ (Mk 6:37): it means working to eliminate the structural causes of poverty and to promote the integral development of the poor, as well as small daily acts of solidarity in meeting the real needs which we encounter.” (188)

¹⁸ “I ask God to give us more politicians capable of sincere and effective dialogue aimed at healing the deepest roots—and not simply the appearances—of the evils in our world! Politics, though often denigrated, remains a lofty vocation and one of the highest forms of charity, inasmuch as it seeks the common good.” (205)

¹⁹ “I would also like to draw attention to the tens of thousands of children who migrate alone, unaccompanied, to escape poverty and violence... They are increasing day by day. This humanitarian emergency requires, as a first urgent measure, these children be welcomed and protected.” (message to the “Mexico/Holy See Colloquium on Migration and Development,” 7/16/14)

²⁰ “Each meaningful economic decision made in one part of the world has repercussions everywhere else; consequently, no government can act without regard for shared responsibility.” (*Evangelii Gaudium* 206)

²¹ “People in every nation enhance the social dimension of their lives by acting as committed and responsible citizens, not as a mob swayed by the powers that be. Let us not forget that ‘responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation.’” (220)

²² “It is the responsibility of the State to safeguard and promote the common good of society. Based on the principles of subsidiarity and solidarity, and fully committed to political dialogue and consensus building, it plays a fundamental role, one which cannot be delegated, in working for an integral development of all.” (240)

²³ “I exhort all countries to a generous openness which, rather than fearing the loss of local identity, will prove capable of creating new forms of cultural synthesis.” (210)

²⁴ “We must never forget that the planet belongs to all mankind and is meant for all mankind; the mere fact that some people are born in places with fewer resources or less development does not justify the fact that they are living with less dignity.” (*Evangelii Gaudium* 190)