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AMERICA/ DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - Presidential elections: vigil of prayer and reflection prescribed by the Church

Santo Domingo (Agenzia Fides) – The Episcopal Conference of the Dominican Republic has exhorted all citizens to vote according to conscience at the Presidential elections next Sunday, 20 May. The Bishops also asked them to pray that, after the elections, "the will of the people, expressed in the ballot-boxes, be respected by all the political parties and their candidates." In the same communication, sent to Agenzia Fides, the Bishops also invited the Catholic faithful to take part in a day of prayer and reflection which will take place Saturday 19, the day before the elections.

The Bishops, after recalling their Appeal of 27 February on the duty to exercise the right to vote, ask the help of the Lord for the election of the new President and invite the priests and those responsible in centres of worship to organize the Day of Prayer well for this intention. The communication concludes, "invoking peace for that day, harmonious relationships and respect for the liberty of conscience, so that after the elections, the will of the people may be respected by all parties and candidates". Invoking the blessing of Our Lady of Altagrazia, the Bishops invoke the protection of the Lord for the Dominican people. (CE) (Agenzia Fides,16/5/2012)

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