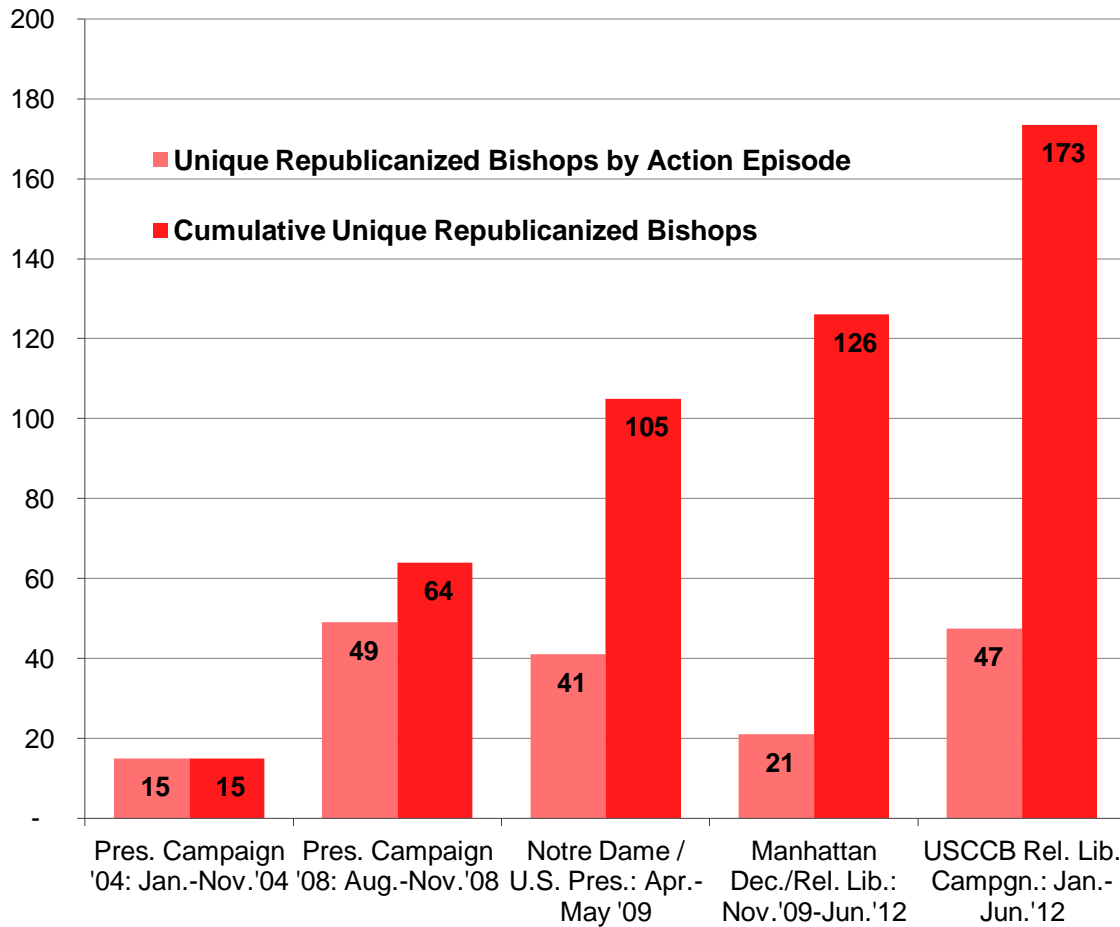


**The Growth in the Number of Republicanized Bishops
by Action Episode
2004 to 2012**



Compiled by *Catholic Democrats*, January 2011. Updated June 2012 and November 2012.

NOTE: This graph presents the number of U.S. Catholic Bishops who have made statements or taken public actions, between 2004 and 2012, communicating in some way, that you cannot be a good Catholic if you vote for the Democratic candidate. They are accounted for by five action episodes presented in the graph above and described below.

The graph of each action episode presents both the number of unique bishops for that action episode and the cumulative number to date who took some action or made a public statement that, when taken together, have contributed to the politicization of the Catholic faith at the expense of compromising the prophetic voice of all the U.S Bishops on the breadth of matters addressed by the Catholic Social Justice Tradition, including but not limited to helping the poor. For more context on this see Catholic Democrats letter to then Archbishop Timothy Dolan of New York on November 14, 2011 here, <https://www.ncronline.org/blogs/ncr-today/catholic-democrats-ask-bishops-address-poverty> and Catholic Democrats and Catholic Democrats letter sent to the ten candidates for President of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops on November 11, 2013, here, <http://catholicdemocrats.org/BishopLetter.pdf>.



Notes for each of the five action episodes are presented below.

2004 Presidential Campaign (Jan to Nov 2004): 15 (fifteen) bishops made unprecedented public statements denying presidential candidate Sen. John Kerry Holy Communion in their dioceses. This not only impugned his standing in the Church, against Canon law, to all "values voters" (see Canon Law Brief, http://www.catholicdemocrats.org/news/2009/Cafardi_Canon_220_Right_to_Good_Name_Privacy.pdf), but was also a subtle form of excommunication communicated to Catholic voters.

Source: Gray, Mark M., Paul M. Perl, and Mary E. Bendyna. "Camelot Only Comes but Once? John F. Kerry and the Catholic Vote." *Presidential Studies Quarterly*, June, 36, No. 2 (May 2, 2006), pp. 203-222.

2008 Presidential Campaign (Aug to Nov 2008): 57 (fifty-seven) bishops made public statements advancing the message that abortion was the most important issue for voters in the 2008 presidential election. Their statements stood in contrast to the US bishops voting guide, *Faithful Citizenship*, which asserted that Catholics should not be single issue voters. To varying degrees, these bishops asserted that you cannot be a good Catholic if you vote for the Democratic candidate.

Source: Palmo, Rocco. "'50 Bishops'... and Then Some." *WhispersInTheLoggia*. Blogspot.com. October 29, 2008. Accessed January 11, 2011. http://whispersintheloggia.blogspot.com/2008_10_01_archive.html

President Obama's Commencement Address at the University of Notre Dame (Apr to May 2009): 82 (eighty-two) bishops made unprecedented public statements calling for the University of Notre Dame to rescind its invitation to President Obama to be the commencement speaker at their 2009 graduation because it would undermine the Catholic identity of Notre Dame.

Source: "List of Bishops Opposing the Notre Dame Invitation and Award to President Obama." *LifeSiteNews.com*. May 6, 2009. Accessed January 11, 2011. <https://www.lifesitenews.com/news/list-of-bishops-opposing-the-notre-dame-invitation-and-award-to-president-o>.

The Manhattan Declaration (Nov 2009 to Jun 2012): Since its unveiling in November 2009 thru June of 2012, 54 (fifty-four) bishops have signed the *Manhattan Declaration*, a conservative religious manifesto authored by three notable Republicans. The document, laden with Republican rhetoric, is a "call to Christian conscience" on the issues of religious liberty, the sanctity of life, and marriage and the family.

Source: Colson, Charles, Robert P. George, and Rev. Timothy George. "Manhattan Declaration: List of Religious & Organizational Leaders' Signatories." *ManhattanDeclaration.org*. November 20, 2009. Accessed January 11, 2011. http://manhattandec.org/man_dec_resources/list_of_religious_leaders.pdf.

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Religious Liberty Campaign - A Fortnight for Freedom (Jan to Jun 2012): In November 2011, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) voted unanimously to make religious liberty its strategic priority in the 2012 presidential election year. They prosecuted an unprecedented parish-based religious liberty campaign in the 17,000+ Catholic parishes in the United States. As many as 26 million voting age Catholics were subjected to the campaign each week at Mass, with messages that included: 1) partisan rhetoric; 2) factually incorrect and incendiary information; and, 3) calls for civil disobedience. This annual campaign, during the two weeks before the Fourth of July, has occurred every year since it 2012.

Source: "2012 Fortnight for Freedom Diocesan Activities." *USCCB.org*. Accessed June 12, 2012. <http://www.usccb.org/issues-and-action/religious-liberty/fortnight-for-freedom/2012-fortnight-for-freedom-diocesan-activities.cfm>, as well as numerous diocesan websites.

