A Discernment of Faithful Citizenship

Principles of the Bishops’ document:

#42. Catholics are not single-issue voters. (I note, however, that once one makes any position an ultimate, he can easily find other supporting causes for his choice.)

#35. Sometimes a Catholic who rejects a candidate’s unacceptable position on an intrinsically evil act may reasonably vote for her for other morally grave reasons.

$40. Catholics support a consistent ethic of life.

Intrinsically evil acts: (#22-23)
Abortion, euthanasia, assisted suicide
Capital punishment
Genocide, Racism
Torture
Targeting of non-combatants
Subjecting workers or the poor to subhuman living conditions (dignity of work)
Environmental degradation, destruction of our common home (#51)
Rejection of refugees and migrants. (#52)

Not finding a candidate who does not condone or promote one of these means

Formation of Conscience: (#18)

Commitment to truth and goodness, esp. as found in SS and Church dogmas.
Examine the facts and background information on options
Prayerful reflection
Prudence

Values of CST:

Human dignity, as of divine destiny.
Reciprocal relationship of rights and responsibilities.
Solidarity (now including international common good)
Subsidiarity, especially family as base of society
Care for Creation
Option for the poor

What Faithful Citizenship leaves out are some important factors in voting:
1) About the moral character of the candidate (truthful, just, compassionate)
2) About his ability to attend to new facts, change his position when necessary
3) skills in governing: can he/she enact her policies, fulfil his promises?
4) Knowledge of domestic and foreign affairs, the laws.