



## *Fr. Stephen Imbarrato*

**PRIEST ASSOCIATE, PRIESTS FOR LIFE**

One would be hard pressed to find a Catholic priest who wouldn't describe his path to the priesthood as a "grace filled journey." Father Stephen Imbarrato of the Archdiocese of Santa Fe, New Mexico, has good reason to make that claim.

For Father Stephen, who was ordained in 2005, that grace includes great blessings – such as the joy of adopting a son as a single person and his dedicated involvement in various pro-life initiatives.

It also includes the knowledge that it was a painful past – namely his own complicity in an abortion many years ago- that brought him to the pro-life movement in the first place, opened him to the priesthood and now allows him to preach the Gospel of Life “from the standpoint of mercy.”

In 1974, he said, “I did not stand up for my girlfriend when I got her pregnant,” and today he counts himself as sharing the guilt for her decision to abort. It wasn't until years later as a seminarian that he learned she had been carrying twins.

Fr. Imbarrato began pro-life work in the early nineties as a political activist, but soon realized the call to pro-life ministry joining Lifenet of NJ as a member of their Speaker Bureau. When he entered Holy Apostles Seminary in 2000, he directed their Life League (HALL) and while still in the seminary founded St Gerard's Center for Life in Hartford. He was also National Coordinator of "Seminarians for Life" a ministry of Priests for Life. As a Deacon, he was the 1st post-abortive man to give his witness as part of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign.

Ordained to the priesthood in 2005, Father soon founded Project Defending Life ([www.defendinglife.org](http://www.defendinglife.org)) which now has many pro-life ministries and activities under its direction including the Holy Innocents Chapel located directly across from Planned Parenthood. Mass is celebrated in the Chapel twice a week followed by a Eucharistic Procession to the Planned Parenthood, the only ministry in the US with regularly scheduled Eucharistic processions to an abortion mill.

Fr. Stephen has been a pastor of country parishes, a suburban parish, and a city parish. He has since moved on from Project Defending Life and has founded ProtestAbq of which he is still an advisor. Father is also on the Board of Directors of Birthright in Rio Rancho NM. He began working full time for Priests for Life as of June, 2015.

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To arrange a media interview, email [media@priestsforlife.org](mailto:media@priestsforlife.org) or call 347-286-7277

To invite Fr. Imbarrato to speak in your area, contact our Speakers Bureau at 888-735-3448, ext. 258;  
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