

# PRIESTS FOR LIFE

Assisting God's people to respond to the evils of abortion and euthanasia

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## BISHOP PERMITS FR. PAVONE TO FOUND NEW SOCIETY



*Fr. Frank Pavone and Bishop John Yanta in Amarillo, TX at the Mass of Chrism, 2005*

Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director of Priests for Life, officially announced that he is founding a pro-life community dedicated to the formation and training of priests, deacons, brothers and seminarians who will devote themselves fully to the proclamation of the Gospel of Life. This initiative will be based in the diocese of Amarillo, Texas, under the authority and stewardship of Bishop John W. Yanta, Bishop of Amarillo.

“It has been a dream of mine for over a decade to form a community that can accept seminarians who want to devote their entire ministry to the defense of the unborn,” said Fr. Pavone. “While it is true that a few religious orders have pro-life work as a dimension of their activities, the Church has no ‘institutional’ society of men whose primary charism is to protect innocent human life from the tragedy of abortion and euthanasia. It is time for such a community. I am grateful to Bishop Yanta for allowing me the opportunity to make this dream a reality.”

Bishop Yanta, who has served on the Priests for Life Episcopal Board of Advisors since 1998, and who has been particularly devoted to the pro-life cause throughout his priesthood, has already offered several buildings in his diocese that will serve as the center for the new apostolate. “I am excited about supporting Fr. Pavone in venturing forth, with and through the Holy Spirit, in the establishment of a Society of Apostolic Life for priests and seminarians dedicated to pro-life ministry - an immense need at this time in history,” said Bishop Yanta today. “The Lord has provided several vacant buildings that once served as a Christian Brothers High School with boarding facilities, a chapel, gym, and spacious grounds. The Diocese of Amarillo is happy to make these available (at no cost) to Priests for Life and the proposed Society of Apostolic Life.”

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*From the Staff of Priests for Life: Thank you for your commitment to the unborn! We are at your service!*

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**This newsletter is available by email, along with a bi-weekly column written by Fr. Frank. Subscribe free of charge at [subscribe@priestsforlife.org](mailto:subscribe@priestsforlife.org)**

## DEACONS' CORNER

### *Believe, Teach and Practice*

By Deacon Keith Fournier  
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*“Receive the Gospel of Christ, Whose herald you now are. Believe what you read, Teach what you believe, and practice what you teach.” Bishop’s Charge to the Newly Ordained Deacon*

As Deacons we were ordained to serve by being configured to Christ the Servant. We are charged to continue his redemptive mission. One of the unique aspects of the diaconal vocation is the call to charity and social justice. Working to end what Pope John Paul II rightly labeled the “culture of death” and to build what he has called a new “culture of life” and “civilization of love”, flows right from the heart of our ordained vocation. When we were handed the Book of the Gospels, the Bishop called us to **believe, teach and practice**. That Gospel is, in the words of Pope John Paul, a “Gospel of Life”.

Many of us are married. We are called to believe, teach and practice everything that the Church teaches concerning marriage and family as a vocation and call to holiness. We are to make our families a “domestic church”, fully living all that the Church teaches concerning the openness to life that is the heart of the nuptial mystery- and to model that openness to life to others. We are also called to believe, teach and practice the full treasury of the Catholic Church concerning marriage and family without confusion or compromise.

Many of us are engaged in careers or jobs. These are not something we do “outside” of our diaconate. Upon the imposition of hands by the Bishop we changed “ontologically”, as good sacramental theology teaches. We are deacons in everything that we do now, not just those things that seem somehow “spiritual.” Thus, in all of our work we are called to be both evangelistic and prophetic, living the faith that we proclaim from the ambo, and witnessing to its truth and relevance in every segment of life.

The Early Christian Fathers referred to the Church as the “world reconciled.” One Orthodox theologian I am fond of writes of the world as being “in the course of transfiguration.” We are called to carry on the redemptive mission of Jesus Christ through His Body, the Church, in the real world. Most of us stand at the intersection of faith and culture, and we are called to be instruments for transformation in the current age.

Through our diaconal service, some of us also serve in ecumenical environments. This positioning gives us opportunities to present the full truth about life to our Christian friends in other communities and put into practice

the Catholic Church’s teaching on authentic Christian cooperation. The pro-life movement is one of the greatest ecumenical efforts of our lifetime. As Deacons we are called to be at the front lines of this movement.

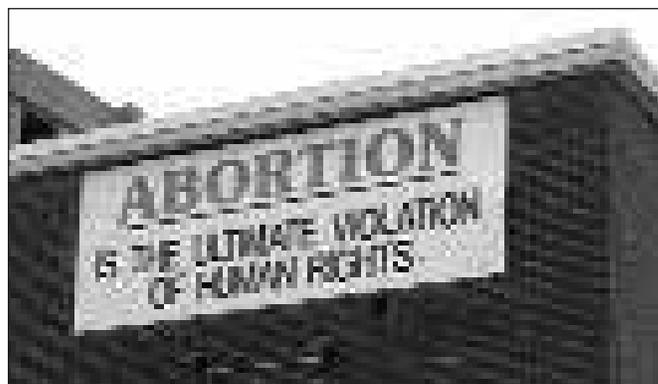
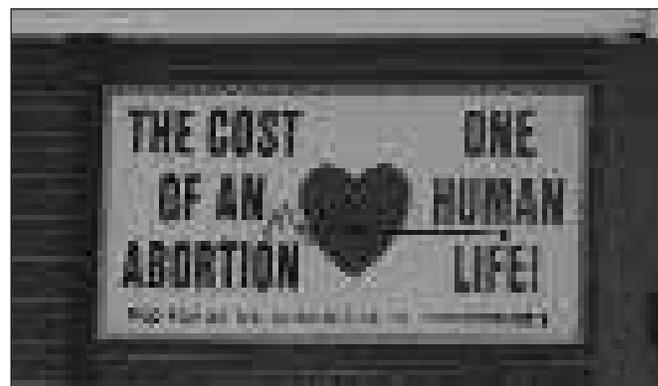
“Deacons in the Service of Life” ([www.DeaconsForLife.org](http://www.DeaconsForLife.org)), an outreach of Priests for Life, is committed to assisting Deacons in their work of building the new Culture of Life through their diaconal ministry. Our mission is to help Deacons believe, teach and practice the fullness of Catholic teaching on life and to instruct, assist and challenge others to do the same.

“Deacons in the Service of Life” is ready to help all deacons to believe, teach and practice this “Gospel of Life.”

*Deacon Keith Fournier is a Deacon of the Diocese of Richmond, Virginia. He is a graduate of the Franciscan University of Steubenville, the John Paul II Institute of the Lateran University and the University OfPittsburgh School Of Law. A human rights lawyer he has appeared as co-counsel four times at the United States Supreme Court. He has authored seven books.*

## CHURCH SIGN POSTING; *Do It Today!*

Parishes throughout the country bear witness to the sanctity of life by means of signs posted prominently on their property. Below are some examples. Why not do it at your parish?



**AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT** *continued from p.1*

This community, while drawing on the spirit and mission of Priests for Life, will be a completely separate entity. Priests for Life will continue to exist as a not-for-profit association of the faithful under Canon Law. Fr. Pavone will continue to serve as the National Director of Priests for Life. In order to initiate the historic formation of this pro-life community of priests, deacons, brothers and seminarians, Fr. Pavone has officially become a priest of the diocese of Amarillo.

“There is no tragedy worse than abortion, and many have felt the call to devote every moment of their time and every ounce of their strength to fighting it. That’s certainly the case for me, and many others who feel the same way are contacting me in these days,” Fr. Pavone said. “Those interested in this new initiative should email me at [vocations@priestsforlife.org](mailto:vocations@priestsforlife.org). We will have a discernment retreat the weekend of June 24 in Amarillo. Those who are already priests can also join the Society.”

Bishops from around the world praised the historic effort.

From Denver, Colorado, Archbishop Charles J. Chaput said: “Under Father Frank Pavone's leadership, Priests for Life has been a tireless and important national voice defending the sanctity of human life. In supporting Fr. Pavone's new initiative, Bishop Yanta and the people of the Diocese of Amarillo are offering a vital service to Catholics throughout the United States.”

From St. Louis, Missouri, Archbishop Raymond L. Burke said: “I have received with great joy the news of the foundation of a priestly society of apostolic life dedicated to the apostolate of the respect for human life. In every time period, the Holy Spirit has inspired founders of institutes of the consecrated life and societies of apostolic life, so that the spiritual needs of the Church and world might be more fully addressed. Surely, there is a great need in our time for a priestly society dedicated to the conversion of our culture of death and the promotion of a civilization of life. The work of the Priests for Life and its National Director, Father Frank Pavone, has surely prepared the way for the timely foundation of the priestly society of apostolic life. I commend Bishop John W. Yanta for his pastoral vision and generosity in inviting Father Pavone to make the new foundation in the Diocese of Amarillo. I pray that God will bless abundantly Bishop Yanta, Father Pavone and the new foundation.”

From Phoenix, Arizona, Bishop Thomas J. Olmsted praised Priests for Life: “[This organization] has offered a courageous and articulate proclamation of the Gospel of Life for a number of years. While standing strong in the defense of every human life, it has offered persuasive reasons for respecting the dignity of each person, especially the most vulnerable and innocent among us.”

Renato Cardinal Martino, president of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, said: “In today's world, the idea of a new religious community founded for the purpose of working to protect human life may seem like a sign of contradiction - but it may just be what the world of today needs! The call to protect life is not only a foundation of our faith as Catholics, but it is the very basis of our recognition of human rights and the right to life. The human dignity with which we have been endowed by God binds us together as members of the one family.”

**Can you make a gift to enable us to send this newsletter to every priest in your diocese?**

**Call Jerry at (718) 980-4400**

## **Priests for Life Broadcasting**

### **On Television, Radio and Internet**

Tune in to see 13 new, powerful and informative **Defending Life** shows! The 10th Season has just begun on EWTN Wednesday, 5 AM and Friday, 10 PM (all times Eastern). Visit [www.ewtn.com](http://www.ewtn.com) for more information Listen to **Defending Life** on the web at [www.ewtn.com/vondemand/audio/intro.asp](http://www.ewtn.com/vondemand/audio/intro.asp) Search on "pavone."

We also produce the program **Gospel of Life**, which is geared to an interdenominational Christian audience. It airs on the "Angel One" channel on the Sky Angel Satellite System - Monday at 3:30am, Thursday at 8:30am and Saturday at 7:30pm (all times Eastern). Visit [www.skyangel.com](http://www.skyangel.com) for more information

Listen to **Gospel of Life** episodes on the web at [www.gospeloflife.com/tv](http://www.gospeloflife.com/tv) You can call us with questions and we may have your question on the air! Call 888-735-3448, ext. 301

Hear **Fr. Frank's daily radio spots**, as heard on EWTN Global Catholic Radio, and on the Bott Radio Network, by clicking on: [www.priestsforlife.org/dailyspot/dailyspot.m3u](http://www.priestsforlife.org/dailyspot/dailyspot.m3u)

**Please pass this information along to your friends and Pastors!**

**GENERAL INTERCESSIONS FOR EVERY SUNDAY OF THE YEAR:**  
[www.priestsforlife.org/prayers](http://www.priestsforlife.org/prayers)

**The US Bishops' Pastoral Plan for Pro-life Activities calls for a pro-life petition at every Mass. Now you can find, in English and Spanish, a suggested set of General Intercessions for every Sunday of the Liturgical Year.**

[www.priestsforlife.org/prayers](http://www.priestsforlife.org/prayers)

# OUR LATEST PRODUCTS

Please mail your order to: **PRIESTS FOR LIFE RESOURCE DEPARTMENT**  
P.O. Box 141172 • Staten Island, NY 10314 or fax to 718-980-3900 or Email: [orders@priestsforlife.org](mailto:orders@priestsforlife.org)

## “See For Yourself” - Powerful New DVD about the Abortion Procedure! *(Caution: Very Graphic)*

Listen to and watch former abortionist Dr. Tony Levatino take actual instruments that were once used to kill thousands of babies, and describe how the abortion procedure is done, using fetal models to illustrate it. This program is guaranteed to wake up all but the most hardened consciences! Then, on the same DVD, watch Dr. Byron Calhoun comment on actual aborted babies whom he examined — and see the babies in detail. Order “See for Yourself” below.

## Priests for Life Mass Cards Available

Our Mass cards continue to be available, and you can request them from us in any quantity free of charge. Then, when you want to enroll a deceased friend or loved one, you can use the card, and the person will share in the benefit of all the prayers and Masses of the Priests for Life Association worldwide.

We are in the process of producing Mass cards for the living, and if you want to place an advance order for those, please do so — but please be patient as we finish the production!

## Prayer Cards to End Abortion

We are asking all Christians to say a special prayer of commitment each day for an end to abortion, and to indicate that they have joined this effort by going to [www.PrayerCampaign.org](http://www.PrayerCampaign.org) to sign up. You may obtain prayer cards from us, in quantity, with this prayer on them.

## SPANISH VERSION OF THE PRAYER TO END ABORTION

### Oración para abolir el aborto

Dios Padre, te agradezco por el obsequio de mi vida,  
por las vidas de todos mis hermanos y hermanas.

Sé que no hay nada que destruya la vida más que el aborto,  
y me regocijo al saber que Tú has conquistado la muerte  
con la Resurrección de Tu Hijo.

Estoy listo para poner de mi parte en la lucha para abolir el aborto.

Este día me comprometo  
a nunca más quedarme en silencio,  
nunca más quedarme pasivo,  
y nunca más olvidarme de los no nacidos.

Me comprometo a ser activo en los movimientos pro vida,  
y nunca dejar de luchar por la vida

hasta que todos mis hermanos y hermanas sean protegidos,  
y que nuestra nación sea de nuevo una  
nación con libertad y justicia  
no solo para algunos, sino para todos,  
Por Cristo Nuestro Señor. Amen!

Join our daily prayer campaign to end abortion at  
[www.PrayerCampaign.org](http://www.PrayerCampaign.org) and download this  
prayer in English and Spanish.

## ORDER FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_

STATE/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

- I have made my check payable to: **Priests for Life**
- I made my donation online at [www.priestsforlife.org/donate](http://www.priestsforlife.org/donate)
- Please charge my contribution to my credit card:

Card Type \_\_\_\_\_

Card No. \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

- “See For Yourself” Abortion video product #1763  
Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$10.00 each for Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Mass Cards-In Remembrance of the Deceased:  
product #1708  
Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ (Free)
- Mass Cards-For the Intentions of the Living:  
product #1732  
Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ (Free)
- Prayer Cards to End Abortion product #1670  
Quantity \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$0.10 each for Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Donation \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

## PRAYER INTENTIONS

*You are encouraged to remember the following intentions as you pray the Liturgy of the Hours:*

### MAY INTENTION:

That the unborn be remembered at graduation ceremonies nationwide.

### JUNE INTENTION:

That post-abortion ministries may be successful in their efforts to reach more and more people with compassion and healing.