



# PRIESTS FOR LIFE

## Gospel of Life Ministries

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

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

Number 2

### Priests for Life Directors Receive Prominent Awards

Fr. Frank Pavone and Janet Morana recently received special awards for their pro-life leadership.

Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director of Priests for Life, was honored with the A.D. King Advancing the Culture of Life Award in January during the Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Week in Atlanta. The presentation took place during a January



*Fr. Frank receives award from Dr. King's family*

14th program honoring Rev. A.D. Williams King entitled, "Brother to the Dreamer, the Half that's Never Been Told." "This is a great, great honor to be given an award named for one of the pioneers for equal rights in our nation, Rev. A.D. King," said Fr. Pavone. "The struggle to which Rev. King devoted his life, equal rights under the law, continues today, as we strive to return protection to the most vulnerable among us, the children in the womb."

Alveda King, daughter of A.D. King, and a full-time Pastoral Associate of Priests for Life, commented, "The civil rights movement of today is the pro-life movement. It is therefore so fitting that in honoring my father, Rev. A.D. King, we established a Culture of Life Award, and are presenting it to Fr. Frank. The dream of my father and my uncle must be applied in every generation to the most marginalized members of our society. Today, those members are the children in the womb, and in their name we declare again, We Shall Overcome!"

The night of Fr. Pavone's award also featured the premiere of a new documentary on the life of Rev. A.D. King, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s younger brother and fellow civil rights leader, entitled "A.D. King, the Half that's Never Been Told." The keynote address that evening was given by longtime civil rights champion Rev. Dr. Otis Moss.

Janet Morana, Executive Director of Priests for Life, was honored by Legatus, the international organization of Catholic business executives, founded by Tom Monaghan. Each year, Legatus bestows its "Cardinal John O'Connor Pro-life Hall of Fame" award on influential pro-life leaders. The award was presented at Legatus' International Summit held in Bermuda from February

5-7. Mary O'Connor Ward, the sister of Cardinal O'Connor, traveled to the Summit for the occasion. Janet commented, "The connection that Priests for Life had with Cardinal O'Connor over the years, and the friendship we continue to have with his sister, makes this award all the more appropriate and touching. Priests for Life could not have grown without the Cardinal's strong support, and the permission he initially gave to Fr. Frank Pavone, whom he also ordained, to lead this ministry. As pro-life leaders, we will do all we can to advance the Cardinal's teaching and example."

### Graphic images have an impact!

At [www.Unborn.info](http://www.Unborn.info), Priests for Life posts images of aborted children, as well as some of the numerous testimonies we receive about how those images change minds and hearts and save lives. Here's one of the messages we received recently:



*This unborn baby is six months old. It is legal in the United States to kill him.*

"Our son has on his cell phone, pictures of aborted babies. Around a week or two ago he shared with us something that happened at his place of employment. He was around some girls more or less his age....They were talking about the woman's right to choose. Finally his cell phone was popped open with the pictures of the aborted babies, thanks to God, and he was used to share what pro-choice and abortion really is. One of the girls there was shocked.... Another day, the shocked girl, told my son that she was pregnant, and is keeping her baby."

### Prayer Intentions

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

#### MARCH INTENTION:

That God may strengthen those who suffer ridicule and rejection for their pro-life convictions.

#### APRIL INTENTION:

That God may bless and console the fathers of aborted children.

**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).**

## Abortion Hurts Women

### An Interview with Executive Director, Janet Morana

Janet Morana has served the Priests for Life organization since 1993, and is a prominent pro-life leader through her coordination of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign worldwide, her work with Rachel's Vineyard, her travels and talks around the nation, and her production of national and international pro-life radio and television programs.

#### When did you first start enunciating the theme that abortion hurts women and that women deserve better than abortion?

**Janet:** In 1989, when Fr. Frank Pavone and I first began leading pro-life activities in St. Charles Church in Staten Island, NY, we organized the parish life chain and began talking about the need for a sign to complement "Abortion Kills Children." We eventually contacted Royce Dunn, the national leader of Life Chain, with the idea for a sign that said "Abortion Hurts Women", and they agreed to produce that sign. It has been one of the official "Life Chain" signs ever since.

We promoted the "Abortion hurts women" theme in all our educational and pastoral work. We even made an envelope stamp that conveyed that message and encouraged activists to use it.

#### When you began working with Priests for Life, what part did post-abortion healing play in the vision of the ministry?

**Janet:** When Fr. Frank became National Director in September of 1993, one of the first things we had to do was to design letterhead. The phrase we adopted was "Pro-Woman, Pro-Family, Pro-Life." We wanted our ministry to have a woman-centered message, because we knew that women were being pressured to abortion and not given the resources they deserved to give life to their children.

In the clergy seminars we developed, the need for priests to speak about healing in their pro-life homilies was emphasized right from the start. The emphasis on reconciliation and healing was always central, pointing out that such healing was available no matter how many abortions a person may have had. In writing outlines of pro-life homilies, one of the earliest examples we used was the woman we came to know of who had 24 abortions, and that even she would be welcomed back to the Church, upon repenting of those sins.

#### How did the post-abortion aspect of the work grow as the years went on?

**Janet:** In 2002, I began discussions with Georgette Forney to develop a campaign to get the message of the post-abortion women out to the general public. Through my constant Priests for Life travels, I met many women who had had abortions, had come to healing, and wanted their voices to be heard. Georgette and I founded the Silent No More Awareness Campaign and held the first gathering in January of 2003. It is now the largest mobilization in history of women and men who have lost children to abortion.

In that same year, Rachel's Vineyard, the world's largest ministry for healing after abortion, founded by Theresa and Kevin Burke, became a ministry of Priests for Life.

#### How does your personal experience and training shape your work?

**Janet:** I have lost children by means of abortifacients which I thought were merely preventing pregnancy. I share my testimony about that loss in the book "The Contraception of Grief." That experience helps me in my counseling of others and speaking on the issue. I have also received intensive training from Dr. Philip Ney, the world's premier researcher on the impact of abortion on women and men, and the developer of the "Hope Alive" training program for post-abortion healing.

#### What are your plans for the years ahead in the arena of promoting this pro-woman message?

**Janet:** We intend to increase the number of women who come to our healing resources after having been hurt by abortion. The campaign website ([www.SilentNoMoreAwareness.org](http://www.SilentNoMoreAwareness.org)) is a key vehicle for this purpose. We expect to see many register with the campaign so as to add their voice to so many others who publicly declare that they regret their abortion. Priests for Life is also at the forefront of providing pastoral training for pregnancy center directors and staff and promoting alternatives to abortion. We want to show society that it must come alongside women in an unplanned pregnancy so that they can have the resources they need to receive their pregnancy as an "unexpected blessing" rather than a burden that has to be surgically removed.

## Order form

Order at [www.priestsforlife.org/store](http://www.priestsforlife.org/store) or mail your order to: Priests for Life, P.O. Box 141172, Staten Island, NY 10314; or fax: (718) 980-3900; or Email: [orders@priestsforlife.org](mailto:orders@priestsforlife.org).

#### The Cross and the People of Life - 2 CD set

Every Good Friday, Fr. Frank Pavone preaches the Seven Last Words, weaving the themes of the Passion and the pro-life cause. He gives a Biblically based, stirring call to draw strength from the cross to advance the Gospel of Life. This CD set also includes his homily at the Liturgy of the Passion.

#### Terri's Final Hours

March 31 is "Terri's Day," marking the anniversary of Terri Schiavo's tragic death. Hear Fr. Frank Pavone's stirring "Reflections on Terri Schiavo" on this forty-minute CD and read his eyewitness account of Terri's final hours in a brochure that tells the truth you have not heard in news reports.

- Send me \_\_\_\_ The Cross and the People of Life CD set (#2029) at \$18.00 each, for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
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