

PRIESTS FOR LIFE

an outreach of Gospel of Life Ministries

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

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Silent No More Campaign Launches... Healing the Shockwaves of Abortion



Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, the personal representative of Pope Francis to the United States, opens the Silent No More gathering on January 22, 2015 with a prayer and blessing.

Abortion is like an earthquake whose violent shockwaves unsettle the earth for hundreds of miles around. The loss of one child to abortion impacts everyone involved: the mother and father, the grandparents, the siblings, family and friends, even the abortion clinic workers and abortionists, and even pro-life advocates who can't save every child.

To acknowledge and begin to repair the damage that abortion has sent rippling through our society, the Silent No More Awareness Campaign launched a year-long initiative at the March for Life in Washington, D.C. and the Walk for Life in San Francisco.

Called ***Healing the Shockwaves of Abortion***, the new initiative seeks to give a voice to all those who regret the abortion they took part in, and all those who mourn the loss of each child.

The Silent No More Shockwaves gathering held in Washington DC, at the steps of the Supreme Court on the day of the March for Life, January 22, was opened with a prayer and blessing by Archbishop Carlo Maria Viganò, the Apostolic Nuncio (*personal representative of Pope Francis to the United States*), who shared the following words of encouragement:

"I am glad to be here in the name of Pope Francis, representing him and his mercy, the mercy of God to each one of you who are taking part in this March for Life. I want to share with you the joy that God has put into our hearts, because we love Him and we want to share with you the mercy He's given to each one of us, especially those who ask for mercy. Pope Francis said that we should ask for mercy."

The "Symphony of Healing" was displayed by the Shockwaves Initiative in a moving way by the convergence of the various groups of people expressing their pain, grief and repentance over abortion. This photo, for instance, captures the convergence of these groups:



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The Year 2015 marks two important Anniversaries: The Gospel of Life, and Terri Schiavo

March 25th, 2015 marks the 20th Anniversary of the publication of *Evangelium Vitae* (The Gospel of Life) by St. John Paul II in 1995. This is a foundational document for the pro-life efforts of Christian believers.

A special prayer vigil for life will be held in Rome on March 24th to commemorate this anniversary. Fr. Frank Pavone will be present and help lead the prayers in this service. Churches throughout the world are encouraged to hold similar prayer vigils to remind the faithful of the teachings of The Gospel of Life and to unite in prayer for the protection of the unborn!

This is an anniversary that should be celebrated ...Continued on page 3

Healing the Shockwaves of Abortion

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Good media coverage resulted from a press conference held at the National Press Club on January 8 to announce the Shockwaves initiative. Those who heard about it for the first time welcomed the initiative as a new way to illustrate the damage abortion does, and also said that the message resonates with what they know to be true but have not quite put into words.



From left to right: Alveda King, Georgette Forney, Fr. Frank Pavone, Janet Morana and Kevin Burke at the Healing the Shockwaves of Abortion Press Conference at the National Press Club.

Father Frank Pavone, National Director of Priests for Life and Pastoral Director of Silent No More, explained that the first Silent No More witness at the March for Life was in 2003, when Mrs. Forney stood alone holding a sign that said “I Regret Aborting My Baby.” By the following year, there were dozens of women standing with her. Men came the following year, regretting their lost fatherhood.

“This year, along with having women who say ‘I Regret My Abortion,’ along with having men who say ‘I Regret Lost Fatherhood,’ we have people holding signs saying ‘I Mourn My Aborted Sibling.’ We have people holding signs saying ‘I Regret Losing My Grandchild to Abortion.’ And we have people holding signs saying ‘I Regret Performing Abortions and Providing Abortions.’ This expansion of the witness today is part of the initiative called Healing the Shockwaves of Abortion. The theme is very simple: Abortion hurts everybody.”



Mother and daughter Brice and Zoe Griffin from North Carolina spoke during the rally in Washington, and shared about the day that Brice, a committed pro-life activist, told her four children she had an abortion before she met their father. Though she was stunned to learn that she was a sibling survivor of abortion, Zoe said the revelation had helped sharpen the focus of her own pro-life work.

“I want to be able to say I avenged my big brother by abolishing abortion,” she said, “and I am confident that I am part of the generation that will do that.”



Another sibling, 17-year-old Daniel Rosa, spoke of his oldest brother, one he never had the opportunity to meet.

“I am testifying for those who are children of post-abortive fathers,” Daniel said. “We do not march to fight against a law written on paper. Instead, we march in support of the law written upon our hearts.”



Grandparents, too, are impacted by abortion, even if they were unaware at first that they had lost a grandchild. Speaking about Kelly, one of her three daughters, Silent No More Co-Founder Janet Morana said she had lost two grandchildren, and didn't know about the first until after the second was lost to a miscarriage that followed an incomplete abortion.

Addressing other pro-lifers, she said: “We have to not be afraid to talk about this among ourselves. I'm telling you now that if you know someone who is a grandparent who lost a

grandchild to abortion, that we need healing, too. Know that hope and healing is available. Know that it's OK to talk about it and it's OK that you're pro-life and that there was a mistake in your family. And I'm going to be, from this point forward, Silent No More about losing my grandchildren to abortion."



Former Planned Parenthood clinic worker Catherine Adair broke her heart all over again as she spoke of the callousness of clinic workers, who called the remains of aborted babies "pieces of children."

"The shockwaves of every abortion I took part in reached into my heart and soul, and there are many people like me who have worked in the abortion industry and have been deeply wounded," she said. "Some of them have made it out and some are still working, burying their feelings the way I did. But I know that healing is possible, and I will be silent no more about the damage abortion causes."

Dr. Anthony Levatino performed 1,200 first and second-trimester abortions in his medical career before deciding never to perform another. Although he has been pro-life for decades, and serves as a medical advisor for Priests for Life, this year was the first time he marched with the women and men of Silent No More, holding a sign that was hard to miss even in the sea of signs floating above Constitution Avenue: "I Regret Performing Abortions."



Dr. Levatino's testimony was heartbreaking. He talked of "throwing away" nine or 10 babies a week while he and his wife struggled with infertility and could not find a baby to adopt. Then he told of the miracle that brought them their adopted daughter, Heather, and the son they conceived just a month later. With his family intact, he quieted his qualms about abortion. But when 5-year-old Heather was killed in a car accident, he found he could no longer silence the voice inside that told him abortion is wrong.

"As an abortionist, I was at the epicenter of the earthquake but since I stopped doing abortions and became involved with pro-life efforts, I can clearly see how abortion affects everyone connected with the child who dies," Dr. Levatino said. "I regret performing abortions and will never perform another one again."

Each month, the Shockwaves initiative will focus on a specific group of people who are wounded and need healing.

For details, visit www.AbortionShockwaves.com.

Pray with us for Life

PrayerCampaign.org is our prayer website. Visit there often for prayer campaigns, intentions, and resources, and to join the over 87,000 people in our cause "Pray to End Abortion."

February 18 - April 2: Lenten Prayer for Life

March 25, 2015: Annunciation

March 31, 2015: 10th anniversary of the death of Terri Schiavo.

April 5 - May 13: Easter Prayer for Life

April 28, 2015: 53rd Anniversary of the death of St. Gianna Beretta Molla, Patroness of Mothers and Physicians.

March intention: That vacancies on our nation's courts may be filled with strong pro-life judges.

April intention: That youth leaders have the courage and creativity to speak about abortion.

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...throughout this year. The text of the encyclical and a study guide prepared by Priests for Life, including reflections by Fr. Frank Pavone, can be found at ProLifeTeachings.com. Fr Pavone worked under St. John Paulin the years immediately after *Evangelium Vitae*.

March 31st, 2015 marks the 10th Anniversary of the death of Terri Schiavo, who was killed by court-ordered dehydration in 2005.

March 31st is Terri's Day, an occasion for prayer and study of the lessons of Terri's life and death. Terri was not dying when her feeding tube was removed. Nor was she connected to any ventilator or life support system. She was deprived of food and water because some believed that her inability to walk and talk made her life worthless.

Priests for Life National Director Fr. Frank Pavone was at Terri's bedside during her final hours. He relates how her death was not "peaceful and dignified," but rather marked by horrifying sadness. As she died from a lack of water, a vase of flowers stood a few inches from her head, and the vase was filled with water.

For suggestions of prayer and action, and reflections by Fr. Frank Pavone, who preached at her funeral, visit TerrisDay.com.

Tour EWTN with Fr. Frank Pavone & Janet Morana

Fans of "The Catholic View for Women" are invited on a pilgrimage to EWTN and the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Alabama June 2-5.

Highlights of the trip will include a retreat led by Fr. Pavone at the Shrine, tickets to Father Mitch Pacwa's "EWTN Live" Show, a chance to watch the co-hosts of "The Catholic View for Women" tape an episode of the show and a tour of the St. John Paul II Eucharistic Center. Pilgrims also will attend the televised Mass with the Friars at EWTN and will pray the Divine Office with the Poor Clares of Perpetual Adoration at Our Lady of Angels Monastery.

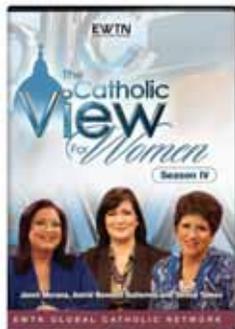
Pilgrims will stay in a hotel in Birmingham and will travel to EWTN in Irondale and to the Shrine in Hanceville on a luxury motor coach.

The price is \$519 per person, double-occupancy, and \$699 for single-occupancy, with a daily continental breakfast, two lunches and two dinners included. Airfare is not included in the price.

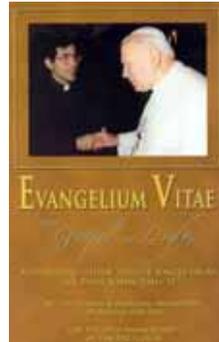
The tour is being arranged by Corporate Travel. For information or to book online, go to www.CTSCentral.net and click on "Pilgrimages."

Featured Products

The Catholic View for Women Season 4 Janet Morana, Teresa Tomeo, and Astrid Bennett are back, encouraging women to do a reality check on Hollywood's standards of femininity, in the light of our timeless Christian standards. Watch this with your friends to celebrate Women's History Month. *4 discs / 6.5 hrs*



The Catholic View for Women Mug
From EWTN's Christian Women talk show, this mug features beautiful blue colors with The Catholic View for Women logo. This mug is durable and dishwasher safe.



Evangelium Vitae Study Guide
This study guide, written by the clergy and pastoral associates of Priests for Life, can be used by individuals or groups as a side-by-side companion with the Encyclical itself. It will aid in delving more deeply into the text and will stimulate reflection and discussion.

Find more great Pro Life products at ProLifeProducts.org!



Order at ProLifeProducts.org or use this order form and mail in the enclosed envelope to **Priests for Life, PO Box 141172, Staten Island, NY 10314**

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