



PRIESTS FOR LIFE

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

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www.priestsforlife.org

Number 3

Help us help more priests!

From its inception, Priests for Life has sought to educate, inspire, equip and unite priests in the service of the pro-life effort, and we continue to do so every day. You can help!

As the late Dr. Bernard Nathanson said about the efforts he and his colleagues successfully made to launch the abortion industry, *We would never have gotten away with what we did if you, the clergy, had been united, purposeful and strong!*

There are many ways that you can help us see to it that priests are more united, purposeful and strong in fighting abortion.

First of all, we don't know the level of interest and involvement of every priest in the country in the pro-life cause. **You can let us know which priests in your community are the most involved.** In this way, we can more quickly network them with priests in other places who are similarly involved, and can more quickly inform them of important action items that arise in the movement. **Please use the form on the next page to send us the names of priests who are most active in the fight for the unborn!**

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Keep up with Fr. Frank at FrFranksBlog.com!

Fr. Pavone Calls Priests to Devote Themselves Full time to the Unborn

New Book Released

Fr. Frank Pavone, National Director of Priests for Life, has released a new e-book called "Vocations: All About Life" in which he highlights the life and ministry of a dozen priests who work full time for the pro-life cause, and lays out in a succinct fashion why more priests should do so.

"The connections between the priesthood and building a culture of life could not be clearer," Fr. Frank announced. "Doing pro-life work is not a hobby or extracurricular activity. It flows from the very essence of the priesthood. This book gives an insight both into that theology and into how it is being lived by priests in the Church today."

The chapters of the e-book, which is available at ProLifeProducts.org, highlight priests who serve ministries like Priests for Life, Human Life International, NFP Outreach, the Pope John Paul II Bioethics Commission, Helpers of God's Precious Infants, and more. Their personal vocation story, and what motivates them to do pro-life work, are the focus of each chapter.

Said Msgr. Philip Reilly, "It's every priest's responsibility to

work for life. How he does it can differ, but no one can be indifferent."

The specific page at which to order the e-book is Priestsforlife.org/store/p-337-vocations-all-about-life.aspx.

Other e-books written by Fr. Frank and available at the Priests for Life online store include "*How to Keep the Fire Burning*," a set of helpful tips on how to keep encouraged and strong in the pro-life battle, and "*Christmas for the Unborn*."

Be a Part of our Legacy Family!

Throughout your life you have demonstrated your profound love for the youngest members of our human family. Time and time again you have given of yourself for their sake. You have shared the blessings which God has bestowed on you to help advance the cause of life. One day, however, as is the case for me and everyone else, God will call you home to your heavenly reward. When He does, you can continue to protect His innocent unborn children by entrusting a portion of your earthly wealth to Priests for Life through a bequest. For information on how to do so, you can call 718-980-4400, ext. 444 or check the box on the coupon that you will find on page 4 of this newsletter.

Baby steps to building a Culture of Life

By Janet Morana, Executive Director

As we celebrate Mother's Day and Father's Day, let's look at some simple things we can do to build a Culture of Life.



Al Kresta, host of Kresta in the Afternoon on EWTN Radio, interviews Janet Morana about her book during the recent International Summit of Legatus.

First, examine how you think and talk about pregnancy, childbirth, and motherhood. Our culture is anti-life and anti-

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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.

Help us help more priests!

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Secondly, you can “adopt a priest” in your community, to sustain him in his pro-life commitment and activity. This involves praying for him each day, with special prayers we have composed and make available at PrayerCampaign.org. Along with prayer, you can commit to help us financially so we can send to priests our *pro-life homily hints, action updates, invitations to seminars, educational videos, parish action kits, and much more!* Let us know if you want to fund this effort for the priests of your parish, your city, your diocese or your region. And if you make that a monthly commitment, that will give us the ability we need to plan ahead to create educational opportunities for priests. Please read the form below for more details. After the form you will see some quotes showing how we have helped priests!

Yes, Fr. Frank, I want to help you help our priests!

___ I have “adopted a priest” and will pray the Prayer for Priests each day as found at PrayerCampaign.org. His name is _____.

___ I have enclosed in this envelope the names of priests I know who are particularly interested and active in the pro-life cause in my community.

___ I will assist financially in the pro-life education of the priests in ___ my parish, ___ my city, ___ my diocese, or ___ my region. Please send me more detailed information about what this special commitment involves.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Mail to : Priests for Life, PO Box 141172, Staten Island, NY 10314

Your newsletter has been a great help to me in my pro-life homilies! Blessings on your super apostolate. – Fr. John, CA

Dear Fr. Frank, It was indeed a pleasure to have you with us last weekend. ... The literature, both in the Church bulletin and at the exit of the Church, has given our parish much to think about and several positive ways to react. -- Fr. Campion, Fr. Lonergan, Fr. Colton and [the entire] parish family.

In desperation my husband asked [our pastor] if he would at least read some material written for priests from Priests for Life. He said that he would. Months later, with no further contact from him, he did preach a pro-life homily. Your work impacted our church and brought us a sense of hope. -- Bobbie

... I gave your material to my pastor, Fr. Joseph... He agreed to start a Respect Life Committee, of which I will be Chair. -- BT

Vatican Archbishop: Do Not Turn Blind Eye to Abortion

From February 21-23, Fr. Frank Pavone took part at the Vatican in the General Assembly of the Pontifical Academy for Life, of which he is a member. One of the presentations in the public session was made by Archbishop Gerhard Müller, Prefect of the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. He spoke about abortion and the “seamless garment” analogy popularized



Fr. Frank with Birthe Lejeune, wife of the Servant of God, Dr. Jerome Lejeune, who co-founded the Pontifical Academy for Life. Prior to the start of the Academy's General Assembly, they discussed the critical importance of priests preaching the pro-life message.

by Cardinal Joseph Bernardin in the 1980's.

Archbishop Müller said that when we present the Church's moral teaching, it has to be a unified and coherent vision. In other words, all the moral issues intersect with one another, and this was what Cardinal Bernardin was articulating. However,



Fr. Frank Pavone, second row, second from right, with members of the Pontifical Academy for Life, of which he is a member. The Academy held meetings in Rome from February 21-23

Archbishop Müller pointed out that the “seamless garment” has sometimes been used in a dishonest way, to justify turning a blind eye to abortion. Some advocate “peace and justice” but are either silent or even supportive about abortion. This is a contradiction. Acknowledging the “intrinsic immorality of abortion” is essential to promoting peace and justice, the Archbishop said, and he indicated that this has to be presented in homilies in an integrated and enthusiastic way.

This, of course, is precisely what Priests for Life was founded to accomplish. For more commentary on this topic, see Priestsforlife.org/consistentethic.

We celebrate the end of slavery, but the unborn are still not free

By Dr. Alveda King
Director of African-American Outreach

In January we celebrated 150 years since the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, which heralded the end of slavery

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The unborn are still not free

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of black people in America. Still, the babies are not free. We also marked 40 years of the March for Life, because the babies still are not free. We celebrated Black History Month in February, and still, the babies are not free. April 4 marked the 45th anniversary of the death of our “Black Moses,” Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Still, the babies are not free.

In June, our remembrance returns to the freeing of the black slaves in America. Juneteenth will mark a time of celebration for



Dr. Alveda King often participates in press conferences at the National Press Club

this momentous event. Still, the babies are not free. And then, in August, we will celebrate 50 years of my Uncle Martin’s famous “I Have a Dream” speech. And still, the babies will not be free.

Juneteenth is a little-known holiday, yet it is dear to African-Americans. If only the babies in the womb were just as dear. Juneteenth marks the end of slavery in the United States, but the oppression of some Americans’ rights continues. We gladly and rightfully celebrate June 19th as the day African-American enslavement officially ended in all parts of the United States. More than 150 years later, however, an entire class of Americans is still treated as nothing more than property. Babies living in their mothers’ wombs are regarded by our laws as non-persons. It’s a tragedy and a disgrace.

Juneteenth and all of the other landmarks listed in this article remind us that the recognition and protection of basic human rights can take a long time, but it also reminds us that American society can change so as to honor its founding principles. Here at Priests for Life, we thank you for your support and your commitment in the fight for life. Together, let us look forward to the day when we can celebrate a holiday commemorating the end of the most devastating and dehumanizing practice since slavery: Abortion. *Please visit AfricanAmericanOutreach.com.*

Spend the summer doing pro-life work with Priests for Life

Bryan Kemper, Youth Outreach Director

Our Youth Outreach at Priests for Life has three main goals -- to educate, activate and equip this generation to be a voice

in the total abolition of abortion. Our summer outreach is an important way we work toward this goal.

Every summer Stand True Prolife Outreach, which I founded and which is now part of Priests for Life, brings young people to Troy, Ohio, for pro-life training, study and activism. In addition to classroom work, missionaries spend time outside abortion mills praying, doing sidewalk counseling and spreading the pro-life message at summer music festivals, some with crowds of more than 30,000 people. The missionaries camp out for much of the summer, eating donated food. But there are some perks: Every year at the National Right to Life Conference, Father Frank Pavone takes a special lunch break to share a PB&J lunch with us.

We know this approach works. Missionaries from previous summers have started pro-life groups on their college campuses and after graduation have gone on to work with pro-life organizations. To find out more, visit StandTrue.com

Not everyone is able to spend the whole summer with Stand True, so we also offer opportunities for young people to join our Social Media outreach team. To find out how to get connected, please e-mail youth@priestsforlife.org.

Baby steps to building a Culture of Life

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motherhood. We need to change that, and it can start with each one of us in how we react to pregnancy and the terminology we use.

How often have we heard someone ask about a pregnant mother, “*What is she going to do about it?*” The implication is that abortion is an option. The better response would be, “How can I help? Is there anything she needs?” Every one of us can play a role in making abortion unthinkable.

A phrase used frequently is “crisis pregnancy.” A more life-affirming description would be “unexpected blessing.” No one wants a teenager to come home with news that she’s pregnant, but it happens. The way we respond can have a real impact on keeping abortion-vulnerable women away from the killing centers. If we consider babies a blessing, no matter how they were conceived, we give the new mother the emotional support she needs to choose life.

When a couple learns the gender of the baby they’re expecting, the best thing to do is to **name the baby right away**. After all, we give names to people, and the baby is a person already. When my daughter learned she was carrying a baby girl, she and her husband selected the name Lily Grace, and we began talking to and referring to the baby by name. Even before knowing the baby’s gender, two names can be selected and used.

Why not buy Mother’s Day and Father’s Day cards for expectant parents? From the moment of conception they are Moms and Dads, so celebrate it!

Something as simple as the language we use to describe babies and pregnancy can make a difference in bringing about a change in our culture, from pro-abortion to life-affirming.

(I deal with this topic in my book, “Recall Abortion.” It is available for your Nook or Kindle by going to Amazon.com or BarnesandNoble.com. At RecallAbortion.com you can also order the book and sign the petition.)

Support our Work

Priests for Life is not subsidized by dioceses, the Bishops' Conference, or the Vatican. We rely completely on donations from individuals like you! All contributions are tax-deductible, and may be designated for specific projects if you so choose. You may donate at priestsforlife.org/donate. On that web page you will find several options:

1. Make a one-time donation by credit card, or by electronic charging of your checking or savings account.
2. Allow us to charge your credit card, checking, or savings account each month.
3. Sign up for monthly mailings that will remind you to send your donation.
4. Be part of our Legacy Family by planned giving.

At any time, of course, you may write a check payable to "Priests for Life" and mail it to PO Box 141172, Staten Island, NY 10314

Featured Products



In the Palm of His Hand - **REVISED**

This popular prayer book has been revised and expanded to include additional prayers from Fr. Frank Pavone to enrich your private and public prayer to bring about a culture of life. **58 pages**

- Fr. Frank, please send me information on Priests for Life Legacy Family
- I would like to order the featured product, In the Palm of His Hand Revised
___1 for \$3.00; ___2 for \$5; ___12 for \$25; ___25 for \$50;
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10th Silent No More Canada Gathering

Afraid she would be ostracized by her family, Angelina Steenstra crossed the border from Canada in 1972 to have an abortion in New York.



Angelina Steenstra, national coordinator of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign Canada, speaks at a pro-life gathering.

"I was told it was no big deal, that it would solve my problems," she recalled. "In fact, it made them worse. I lived in denial as an escape from the pain. And I am only one of millions."

Ms. Steenstra first attended the March for Life in Washington D.C. in January 2004 and was so moved by the testimony of the women of the one-year-old Silent No More Awareness Campaign that she was led to expand the campaign to Canada and serve as its national coordinator.

The Campaign soon became an integral part of the annual March for Life in Ottawa.

"We were embraced," she said. "People were very grateful for our courage."

This year's event, on May 9, will mark the Canadian campaign's 10th gathering. Janet Morana, executive director of Priests for Life and co-founder of Silent No More, will march with the women and men of Silent No More and speak at their gathering.

For information see SilentNoMoreCanada.org

PrayerCampaign.org

At PrayerCampaign.org, please join us in the following intentions and novenas:

May intention: For an increase in the spirit of respectful dialogue with those who disagree with us on life issues.

June intention: That this month's celebration of the Gospel of Life with the Holy Father may bless and strengthen the pro-life movement worldwide.

May 9-19, 2013: Holy Spirit Novena for Life

June 26-July 4, 2013: Prayer of Thanks for our Nation's Independence

Please also join our prayer cause, ProLifePrayers.com!