

2017 Short Overview of Media Activities for Priests for Life

-- Leslie Palma, Communications Director

Priests for Life maintains an aggressive media outreach in print, broadcast, and online content. We produce programming and our team is also available on a daily basis for interviews and comments on news related to abortion. We belong to various media associations, religious and secular, and foster numerous personal relationships with key influencers and executives in major media outlets.

Father Frank Pavone and the entire Priests for Life Pastoral Team were regularly called on to comment on topics in the news, with approximately 300 interviews taking place during 2017. These hottest topics we were asked to weigh in on this year included:

- President Trump's inauguration
- The pro-abortion Women's Marches around the country
- March for Life
- The nomination and confirmation of Supreme Court Justice Neil Gorsuch
- The death of Norma McCorvey, aka "Jane Roe" of Roe v. Wade
- Efforts to defund Planned Parenthood
- The harvest and sale of the organs of unborn children
- Can Democrats be pro-life?
- President Trump's executive order on religious liberty
- President Trump's first 100 days
- Priests for Life's long-running, ultimately victorious battle against the HHS mandate
- An Olympic runner's revelation that an abortion might have cost her a gold medal
- Decline in the numbers and rate of abortion
- English baby Charlie Gard and parental rights
- The visit of President Trump to Pope Francis
- The Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act
- The pro-life movement's success on social media
- Oregon's free-abortion-for-all law
- The Supreme Court case regarding pregnancy resource centers
- Free speech
- Undocumented immigrant's abortion in Texas

Major news outlets that turned to Priests for Life for comments included:

- Associated Press

- Catholic News Service
- Catholic News Agency
- Religion News Service
- Wall Street Journal
- Washington Post
- New York Times
- USA Today
- Boston Herald
- Atlanta Journal-Constitution
- The Hill
- CNN
- Fox News
- ABC News
- NBC News
- EWTN News Nightly
- Christian Broadcasting Network
- One America News
- National Catholic Register
- Florida Times-Union
- Washington Times
- Washington Examiner
- Our Sunday Visitor
- The Christian Review
- Catholic Online
- Philadelphia Inquirer
- Daily Caller
- Town Hall
- The Federalist
- LifeSite News
- LifeNews
- Crux
- Breitbart News
- EWTN Radio
- Ave Maria Radio
- Relevant Radio
- Point of View
- WAVA Radio

- Radio Paz
- Salem Radio
- Bott Radio

Our efforts to place op-eds in various outlets continued to be successful, with the Priests for Life team publishing some 65 articles in 2017. Father Frank and Alveda King became regular contributors to the Washington Examiner. Janet Morana continued contributing commentary to the Daily Caller and the National Catholic Register, and Father Frank to Breitbart News. Alveda King remained a columnist at Newsmax. Kevin Burke continued writing about the shockwaves of abortion and popular culture, with op-eds in Scenes Media, The Stream and LifeSite News. Bryan Kemper and Victoria Gisondi also published commentary. New outlets that published Father Frank's op-eds included The Hill and El Nuevo Herald.

Our media projects this year included a series of undercover phone calls, done in partnership with Abortion Free New Mexico, to expose the truth about late-term abortion in the U.S. The mainstream media continued to bury its head on the issue, but the pro-life media reported on these calls that prove abortion is legal and available – and often government funded – in all three trimesters of pregnancy for healthy babies of healthy mothers.

We also received coverage on the annual National Day of Remembrance for Aborted Children, which we co-sponsor with the Pro-Life Action League and Citizens for a Pro-Life Society; the National Memorial for the Pre-Born and Their Mothers and Fathers, the Silent No More Gathering and the March for Life Youth Rally, all in Washington, D.C., and the Pro-Life Day of Silent Solidarity.

Priests for Life has two television series on the world's largest religious media outlet, EWTN. ***Defending Life***, the longest-running, farthest-reaching television show on abortion, aired its 31st and 32nd seasons on EWTN in 2017, and taped another 13-episode series. ***The Catholic View for Women***, co-hosted by Janet Morana, aired 13 new episodes on EWTN and taped another 13 new episodes.

The Gospel of Life radio program which Priests for Life produces for Radio Maria celebrated its third anniversary in 2017. Priests for Life also continued producing and distributing daily one-minute pro-life spots to numerous Catholic and Evangelical radio networks.

For more details about our media accomplishments in 2017, see the [longer media report](#).