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# Frank Pavone **REPORTS...**

Volume 9 - Issue 1 - February 2024

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## Take Heart! The Unborn Are Winning in Court!

The passage of a pro-abortion ballot referendum in Ohio this year, on the heels of several similar measures passed in a few other states last year, does not tell the whole story of what's happening on the state level.

Fourteen states currently protect nearly all babies - and their mothers - from abortion, and state courts are upholding these laws from the inevitable challenges from the abortion industry. The reason we are winning in the courts is simple: Dobbs is now precedent, rather than Roe and Casey. In other words, according to the Supreme Court, if the people and their lawmakers want to protect the unborn, they can.



*Fr. Denis Wilde, OSA, Priests for Life Associate, at St. Joseph's in Scottsdale, PA. with Fr. Elmer Alforque, and Dr. William and Mary Ryckman, long-time supporters of Priests for Life.*

Here's a look at a few states and what courts have decided about their pro-life laws:

Indiana - The Indiana Supreme Court ruled June 30 that the state's pro-life law doesn't violate the state constitution. The law, enacted in August 2022, eliminated the licenses for all seven abortion clinics in the state and protected the vast majority of babies from abortion, even in the earliest stages of a pregnancy.

South Carolina - The South Carolina Supreme Court on Aug. 23 upheld a law that protects babies from abortion once a heartbeat can be detected.

Georgia - Georgia's Supreme Court on Oct. 24 upheld the state's Heartbeat Law that was approved

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### The Eucharist and Abortion

*During this time that the Church in the USA is focusing on fostering Eucharistic devotion, check out [www.PriestsForLife.org/Eucharist](http://www.PriestsForLife.org/Eucharist) to learn about how this wondrous sacrament inspires and informs our commitment to protect the unborn from abortion.*

*In the Eucharist, for instance, we see beyond appearances. Every speck of the host is Jesus. So we see beyond appearances and acknowledge the baby in the womb as our brother, our sister, right from conception.*

### Pray With Us

*Please pray, through the intercession of Padre Pio, that Pope Francis reverses his decision and reinstates Father Frank's priestly functions - [PrayerCampaign.org](http://PrayerCampaign.org). Meanwhile, he continues leading this organization fulltime with the unanimous support of our Board.*

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by the state Legislature in 2019. The court sent the case back to a lower court for a trial on the separate question of whether the state constitution protects a right to privacy, and whether that right encompasses abortion.

Kentucky - The Kentucky Supreme Court ruled Feb. 16 to keep two state abortion restrictions in place that protect most babies from abortion.

Louisiana - The Louisiana Supreme Court on Aug. 12, 2022, denied an appeal filed by plaintiffs in the ongoing legal battle over the state's abortion law, allowing it to remain in effect. Abortion is only permissible to save the life of the mother or prevent serious risk to her physical health, or if the baby is not expected to survive the pregnancy.

Nebraska - A Nebraska district court judge on Aug. 11 rejected an effort to block a law that protects babies from abortion after 12 weeks.

North Carolina - A federal judge ruled June 30 that nearly all of North Carolina's revised 12-week abortion law can take effect, while temporarily blocking a provision requiring surgical abortions after 12 weeks to take place in hospitals, and a provision that would require doctors to document the location of early pregnancies with ultrasound before prescribing chemical abortion.

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## **Update from Rachel's Vineyard**

Despite the pro-abortion agenda, healing around the world continues at Rachel's Vineyard. Rachel's Vineyard, a ministry of Priests for Life, was founded by our fulltime pastoral associates, Dr. Theresa and Kevin Burke.

While traditionally December and January are a slower retreat season, we're happy to share that 25+ retreats will be held around the world! Over the last few months, we've seen huge growth, especially in our Hispanic Rachel's Vineyard communities. Since January of 2023, we have 20 new retreat sites in development!

To learn more about our healing ministry, visit [RachelsVineyard.org](https://RachelsVineyard.org).

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## **The Lessons Ohio Can Learn from Kansas**

*By Janet Morana, Executive Director*

*Published by LifeNews on Nov. 8, 2023*

Ohioans may feel as if they woke up in Kansas this morning.

It's been a little over a year since out-of-state abortion lovers - including filmmaker Steven Spielberg - pumped millions of dollars into a successful effort to preserve legal child killing in the Kansas state constitution. Pro-lifers predicted that laws passed over the years to protect babies and their mothers would fall if the ballot referendum lost at the polls.

Those predictions are coming true.

Residents of the Buckeye State can look to the experiences of their neighbor to the west if they want to know what will happen now that voters have decided in favor of inventing a right to abortion in the state constitution.

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*Priests for Life Associate Bryan Kemper hit the streets in Ohio on November 7 to educate voters about the dangerous pro-abortion amendment on the ballot.*

of 12,318 total abortions in 2022, including 616 live dismemberment abortions, 8,475 abortions on non-Kansas residents, and 7,339 chemical abortions. Out-of-state residents received twice as many abortions as Kansas women, and there was a 49 percent increase in abortions performed on minors.

But it gets worse. According to the pro-abortion organization We Count, Kansas is on target to hit 20,000 abortions in 2023.

"This is exactly what we predicted," Ms. Underwood said.

To make matters even more dire for the unborn and their mothers, last week a county judge in Kansas acquiesced to the demands of Planned Parenthood and the Center for Reproductive Rights in blocking several long-standing and newly enacted state laws.

On temporary hold now is a law that compelled abortion sellers to provide mothers, in writing, with information regarding abortion alternatives, and another requirement that abortion businesses post on their website on abortion's detrimental impact on breast cancer and premature birth. Abortion profiteers also now can disregard a law that called for them to provide information on abortion pill reversal, and women no longer have to wait 24 hours before an abortion.

"We knew they would go after the Women's Right to Know Act," Ms. Underwood said. "We expect parental notification to be next."

The laws are blocked until a trial set for June 2024.

As in Kansas, money flowed into pro-amendment coffers in Ohio from a variety of places, with abortion advocates raising \$28 million and pro-lifers garnering \$9.9 million in contributions. The money makes a difference in terms of how many people can be reached with a reliably misleading pro-abortion message.

Kentucky is another state that lost a pro-life ballot battle last year. Kentucky Right to Life Executive Director Addia Wuchner told Priests for Life that pro-lifers were outspent nearly 8 to 1 by abortion advocates, most of them from out of state.

With at least seven states considering ballot referendums in 2024, Ms. Wuchner had some advice for pro-lifers in those battlegrounds:

"We try to tell them, avoid them if you can because the amount of money that will come in - not just

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from your state but from around the country - is astronomical. And why there is so much hatred for an unborn child that people from Massachusetts, California, New York; individuals, and film producers like Steven Spielberg, would be willing to put money into a state to defeat a ballot initiative that has nothing to do with them is heart-rending."

This is the reality that greeted Ohio residents this morning.

*Janet Morana is the executive director of Priests for Life and the co-founder of the Silent No More Awareness Campaign. Her most recent book is **Everything You Need to Know About Abortion - For Teens**.*

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## Priests for Life Defends the Unborn at the United Nations

Priests for Life had a busy end of year as we submitted written statements prepared by our Parliamentary Network for Critical Issues (PNCI) for both the upcoming 62nd Session of the Commission on Social Development (5 - 24 February 2024) and the 68th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (11 - 22 March 2024). We will soon also be submitting a third statement for the 57th Session of the Commission on Population and Development (29 April - 03 May 2024). For updates on the UN and the text of our statements, please consult [www.PriestsForLife.org/International](http://www.PriestsForLife.org/International) as well as [www.PNCIUS.com](http://www.PNCIUS.com).

We were also pleased to take part in the UN's 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, an event sponsored by the Political Network for Values called Affirming Universal Human Rights - Uniting Cultures for Life, Family and Fundamental Freedoms (16 - 17 November 2023). The event was intended to "rescue the original meaning of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR)" and was supported by more than 200 political and civic leaders from 40 countries participating in the V Transatlantic Summit.

We all endorsed what is being called the **New York Commitment**, to create a global alliance in favor of the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined and universally recognized in the Universal Declaration. We will work for the formation and stability of the family; to protect children, before and after birth; and to respect the freedom of parents and legal guardians to provide the religious and moral education of their children in accordance with their own convictions.

Priests for Life was involved in the very first V Transatlantic Summit held at UN Headquarters back in 2014 and has been supportive ever since.

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## Finally, a Children's Book About the TRUE Meaning of Easter

**"A long time ago - over two thousand years - there lived a small bunny with very large ears."**

*The Story of the First Easter Bunny* is a refreshing and heartwarming reminder of the true meaning of Easter.

Best-selling author Anthony DeStefano tells the tale of a pint-size bunny with enormous ears who seeks healing for his sick mother by searching for Jesus and listening to His words. The bunny shows courage and compassion on his selfless journey. When all seems dark and he is afraid, the bunny remembers Christ's words and takes refuge in God's promise by calmly waiting for the light.

After the bunny witnesses the Last Supper, the Crucifixion, and the Resurrection, he and his mother experience a life-changing miracle, and the bunny goes on to spread the message of salvation to all who will listen. **Order this book on page 7.**



*Longtime pro-life activist Chris Slattery, with whom Priests for Life worked closely with for more than 30 years, died last November after battling cancer. The pregnancy help center he founded in the 1980s, Expectant Mother Care - EMC Frontline Pregnancy Centers - was the first in the New York City metropolitan area and a frequent target of pro-abortion lawmakers who wanted to close it down. Priests for Life honored him at the 2023 National Prayer Service for his work. Here he is pictured receiving the award from National Director Frank Pavone and Executive Director, Janet Morana.*

## Remembering Two Pro-Life Heroes

February marks the anniversary of the death of two heroes of the pro-life movement: Norma McCorvey and Dr. Bernard Nathanson. Both of them initially came to prominence for their successful efforts to legalize abortion but both had conversions of the heart that left them passionately pro-life. And both were friends of Priests for Life.

Nathanson was a New York City OB-GYN and a founder of the National Association for the Repeal of Abortion Laws (now NARAL Pro-Choice America), which lobbied for the repeal of abortion laws nationwide. In 1970, when abortion was legalized in New York, he opened what he called the "largest abortion clinic in the western world." But by 1974, he was already beginning a transformation that would not only bring him to the pro-life side but also brought a self-described Jewish atheist into the Catholic Church.

Nathanson died on Feb. 21, 2011, at the age of 84.

McCorvey was a Texas resident who led a chaotic life that led to several unplanned pregnancies. When two attorneys learned that she was seeking an abortion in Texas, they knew they found their plaintiff for the U.S. Supreme Court case that came to be known as Roe v. Wade and that legalized abortion nationwide on Jan. 22, 1973 until it was overturned in June 2022. Norma died Feb. 18, 2017 at the age of 69.

A book in production about the history and influence of Priests for Life includes much more information

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### Praise for our Work

**"THANK YOU - you just have such a great way of cheerfully defending life and articulating strong arguments in a way that doesn't cause strong reactions. It's a gift from above, no doubt. You are seriously one of my favorite defenders of life. BLESS YOU!" - Tamara S.**

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on both of these pro-life warriors but here are two brief excerpts that give a glimpse into their lives.

In January 1994, National Director Frank Pavone and now-Executive Director Janet Morana were invited to a conference where Nathanson was supposed to talk about the new threat of chemical abortion. Mrs. Morana begins the story:

"Fr. Frank did a beautiful introduction and then he took his seat. Nathanson took the microphone and with a very serious look on his face, he said, 'I'm not going to talk about the topic of this workshop, although it is very important. Instead, I'm going to tell you about my spiritual journey.' Nathanson was a non-practicing Jew who considered himself an agnostic. When he said, "I stand before you today on the brink of conversion," the audience leapt to its feet. I'll never forget, Catholic philosopher Alice Van Hildebrand stood up - she was a tiny woman - she jumped in the air! Nathanson went on to tell how pro-lifers had shown him the way to Jesus."

Fr. Frank had a similar recollection:

"Dr. Nathanson said that he hoped God could forgive him, and I said, 'Dr. Nathanson, he already has.'"

When Norma died, Mrs. Morana wrote a beautiful tribute that was published in the National Catholic Register and is excerpted in the book.

Norma McCorvey called me "The Woman of the East."

I called Norma my friend.

Although she never had an abortion, she deeply regretted that millions of babies have died because of an unjust decision rendered in her name.

... I met Norma in 1995, after she had already been baptized a Christian by Rev. Flip Benham of Operation Rescue. She now declared herself "pro-life clear across the board." Soon after she started hanging around with us Catholics, Norma decided the Catholic Church was a better fit for her.

I had the privilege of sitting next to her at St. Thomas Aquinas, the Dallas church where she was received into the Catholic Church in 1998. Father Frank Pavone, the national director of Priests for Life, concelebrated the Mass and placed the oil on her forehead to call down the Holy Spirit in confirmation. It was an awe-inspiring moment for everyone in that church.

Norma later asked me to accompany her on a Rachel's Vineyard retreat because she needed healing from the experience she went through as the poster child for abortion rights.

Our prayers at Priests for Life are that they both rest in peace.

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### PrayerIntentions.org and ProLifePrayers.com

Leave us your prayer intentions as often as you like at [PrayerIntentions.org](http://PrayerIntentions.org) and we will remember you in our prayers and Masses! Visit [ProLifePrayers.com](http://ProLifePrayers.com) for prayers and resources.

February 14 - March 27: Lenten Prayer for Life ([www.PrayerCampaign.org/Lent](http://www.PrayerCampaign.org/Lent))

February intention: That Christ's faithful may both hold and practice a correct understanding of the consistent ethic of life, always giving priority to the unborn.

# Featured Products:

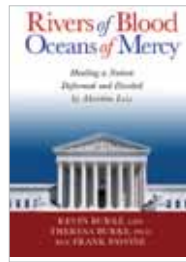


**"Be Kind To All Humans Born/Unborn" T-shirt.**

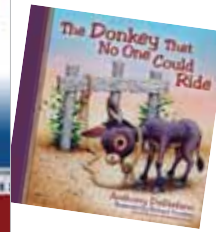
Ultra cotton poly blend long sleeve t-shirt in black with sapphire lettering.



(A)



(B)



(C)



(D)



(E)

(A) **The Story of the First Easter Bunny** See article on page 4.

(B) **Rivers of Blood | Oceans of Mercy** by Dr. Theresa Burke, Kevin Burke and Frank Pavone, lifts the veil on reproductive rights, and reveals how the fallout from more than 60 million abortions extends far beyond the private sphere of a woman's personal healthcare decisions; the impact is dynamic, and far-reaching.

(C) **The Donkey that No One Could Ride** by Anthony DeStefano is a children's story about Palm Sunday. It revolves around a weak and useless donkey whose life is transformed after meeting Jesus.

(D) **In the Light of his Word - Biblically Based Prayers to End Abortion** Delve deeper into scripture this Lent with this prayer booklet by Pro-Life Leader Frank Pavone that takes key themes in God's Word as the launching point for interceding for our brothers and sisters in the womb.

**FREE WITH EVERY ORDER!** (E) **The Way of the Cross for Families** A collaborative effort of Priests for Life and the Vatican's Pontifical Council for the Family. 55 pages and includes colorful illustrations.

**ProLifeProducts.org** or use this order form and mail in the enclosed envelope to: **Priests for Life • PO Box 236695 • Cocoa, FL 32923**

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- Send \_\_\_ **The Story of the First Easter Bunny (#4678)** at \$18.00 each. Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Send \_\_\_ **The Donkey That No One Could Ride (#3164)** at \$10.00 each. Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Send \_\_\_ **Sets of both The Story of the First Easter Bunny and The Donkey That No One Could Ride (#4679)** for \$25.00 Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Send \_\_\_ **Rivers of Blood – Oceans of Mercy (#3905)** at \$10.00 each. Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Send \_\_\_ **In the Light of his Word (#3945)** at one for \$3; \$2.75 each for 25+; \$2.50 each for 50+; \$2.25 each for 75+ or \$2 each for 100+. Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Send \_\_\_ **My free copy of The Way of the Cross for Families** with the rest of my order. (#1372) Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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**[www.ProLifeDonation.org](http://www.ProLifeDonation.org)**

or sending a check made out to "**Priests for Life**" to:

**Priests for Life, PO Box 236695, Cocoa, FL 32923.**

You can also sign up to be a monthly donor, which helps us plan future events more effectively! See the options on our website, or call **321-500-1000** for assistance!

And you can remember us in your will and other forms of planned giving.

Find out more about joining our Priests for Life Legacy Family at

**[www.PriestsForLifeLegacy.com](http://www.PriestsForLifeLegacy.com)** or call (321) 500-1000.

**Thank you in advance for your generosity!**

### Pro-Life Social Media

Connect with us on social media so we can exchange encouragement and information. At

**[ProLifeSocialMedia.com](http://ProLifeSocialMedia.com)**

you will find a multitude of platforms that Priests for Life manages. Follow us, friend us, like us, and communicate with us. Among our largest platforms are the following:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
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|  X (Twitter): @JanetMorana      |  Instagram.com/FrFrankPavone     |
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|  GETTR.com/user/JanetMorana     |  Soundcloud.com/Priests-For-Life |
|  Rumble.com/user/FrFrankPavone  |  Tiktok.com/@FrFrankPavone       |
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