Alveda King addresses Legatus New York at St. Patrick’s Cathedral

by Fr. Frank Pavone

Evangelist Alveda King, director of Civil Rights for the Unborn for Priests for Life, was an invited guest and keynote speaker for a dinner of the New York City Chapter of Legatus on April 18.

The event began with a private Mass in the Crypt Chapel beneath the main sanctuary of St. Patrick’s Cathedral.

During a dinner that followed Mass, Alveda shared the story of her pro-life conversion and the responsibility to work for civil rights for all, a responsibility that comes with being the niece of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. and the daughter of Rev. A.D. King.


Priests for Life at Heartbeat International

By Janet Morana

Father Frank Pavone and I led two workshops during the 2017 Heartbeat International Annual Conference in Chicago in late April. Founded in 1971, Heartbeat was the first network of pro-life pregnancy help organizations in the U.S. With 2,100 affiliated pregnancy help locations—including pregnancy help medical clinics (with ultrasound), resource centers, maternity homes, and adoption agencies—Heartbeat serves on six
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continents to provide alternatives to abortion.

For our workshop, Father Frank and I built on the Silent No More Awareness Campaign’s Healing the Shockwaves of Abortion initiative for one workshop titled “Grieving the Children We Could Not Save.” Shockwaves highlights all the different groups of people who are impacted by abortion, including pregnancy help center workers. Often these people — many of whom are volunteers -- get to know at-risk moms very well as they work to try to save her baby. When those moms choose abortion, it is heart-breaking for these dedicated pro-lifers.

Our second workshop – “One Thing We Must Never Forget: Our Work is Spiritual” -- focused on the importance of prayer, worship and community.

More than 1,200 people from 15 countries attended the conference, so we are confident our message was heard.

Pro-Life Wins Again in United Nations, with President Trump’s Help

By Marie Smith

The pro-life position of the Trump administration was evident at the United Nations during the 50th session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD), held April 3-7, and organized under the theme “changing population age structures and sustainable development.” The annual meeting, run by the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), was again used by abortion activists to promote access to abortion as a human right but the meeting ended in failure as countries could not reach agreement on issues related to abortion and sexuality.

One pro-abortion NGO at the U.N. charged that the U.S. “helped to disrupt a productive meeting by taking an ideological approach to policymaking in global negotiations”. Yes! The US did take a pro-life ideological approach to policymaking, in sharp contrast to anti-life positions the Obama administration had advanced the past eight years.

The pro-life policies of President Trump resulting in the cut-off of U.S. funds to international NGOs that perform or promote abortion and the defunding of UNFPA for its complicity in forced abortions and sterilizations in China demonstrate that the
U.S. will no longer fund the destruction of unborn children around the world and that the U.S. will no longer be a part of international pressure on countries to legalize abortion.

**Job Opportunities with Priests for Life**

Priests for Life is expanding to a larger headquarters located in Titusville, Florida! We are hiring for various positions in that location, to start in the summer and early fall.

We are looking for motivated people who seek to lend their professional skills to help the pro-life movement achieve its goal of protecting unborn children and ending abortion.

Priests for Life offers a competitive salary and benefits, including medical, dental and vision insurance, 401(k) Program, paid time off and company-paid holidays.

**Requirements for all positions:**

- Applicants must be highly organized, detail-oriented, possess strong interpersonal skills and have a high energy level. Our office is a fast-paced environment that demands the ability to juggle multiple tasks and meet critical deadlines.

- Applicants must be proficient in Microsoft Office applications: Word, Outlook and Access.

Please see [www.PriestsForLife.org/jobs](http://www.PriestsForLife.org/jobs) for details on all available positions and how to apply.

**Finding healing and hope through Radio Maria and Facebook**

*By Kevin Burke*

I am often a guest on Radio Maria’s “The Gospel of Life,” a show hosted every Tuesday at 6 p.m. ET by Janet Morana and Father Frank Pavone. I usually share about my work with women and men who are suffering after abortion.

Someone who heard one of these shows contacted me to say he knew of a young man who had been involved in a very difficult abortion situation. I was able to get in touch with the man and hear his story. His partner went through with an abortion despite his pleading with her to spare their child’s life. He promised ongoing financial support and vowed to continue his relationship with the mom and their baby, to no avail. I feel very privileged that he was able to share his emotional devastation with me, and I was able to refer him to counseling services and a Rachel’s Vineyard retreat in his area.
Intervention like this is so important because men often direct this pain and anger into self-destructive behaviors. It’s also vital that we hear men’s’ stories because they shine a bright light on the fact that fathers, too, are deeply wounded by abortion. Thankfully, through the awareness shared on the Gospel of Life radio show, and ministries of Priests for Life like Rachel’s Vineyard, this man are on the road to healing and recovery. You can hear the show online at http://radiomaria.us

Just a few days after the radio show, a Facebook friend asked me if I could help a young woman who had already had an abortion and was considering a second one. I was able to meet with her that same day and hear about her anxiety and fear. Through our time together, she was able to recognize both her strengths and that voice in her mother’s heart that longed to welcome and nurture her child. We also delved into her pain from the first abortion and I was able to connect her with a pro-life social worker who can provide ongoing support and accompany her throughout her pregnancy and beyond.

Praise the Lord for the countless people we are able to help through Priests for Life!

**Another season of Defending Life at EWTN**

*By Fr. Frank Pavone*

Father Stephen Imbarrato, Janet Morana and I were back at EWTN in April to tape another season of **Defending Life**, the longest-running, farthest-reaching television show about abortion. We created the show in 1994 at the direct request of EWTN founder Mother Angelica and the show has been going strong ever since.

While we were in Alabama taping shows – and worrying about the possibility of tornadoes -- the 31st season of the show continued to air on the network that offers Priests for Life a worldwide platform to share our message about the sanctity of life and our efforts in working to abolish abortion.

Janet and Father Stephen shared hosting duties again and I was on the set as a spiritual and creative advisor.

Noting that every season of **Defending Life** continues our mission of educating and activating pro-lifers while also winning more converts to the cause, Janet said “*each episode gives viewers ideas for concrete ways they can get involved in ending abortion.*”

Father Stephen also was able to celebrate three televised Masses at EWTN, making a total of 17 since May 2016. His April homilies were
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on the virtue of chastity; euthanasia and assisted suicide and a proportional response to the enormity of the abortion issue.

“Everywhere I go and to whomever I speak,” Father Stephen said, “I talk about how proud I am to be on the staff of Priests for Life and a member of the EWTN Family.”

Defending Life airs at 3 a.m. ET on Wednesdays and 11 p.m. ET on Thursdays. Viewers can watch it on television or stream it live at www.EWTN.com. To find out more about the show, visit www.defendinglife.tv

And speaking of EWTN, while the sixth season of The Catholic View for Women is currently airing on the network, Janet traveled to her co-host Teresa Tomeo’s home in Michigan to plan for next season. The show continues to delve into the hottest topics facing women today. Find out more about it at www.TheCatholicViewforWomen.com

Praise for our work

~ I wanted to tell you how wonderful Fr. Stephen Imbarrato was on EWTN with the Election. I really feel like it made a big difference. I told so many people to watch that and I was glued to it every day and God Bless him for the right outcome that we had. I really feel like the priests really made a big difference. So God Bless everybody there.

~ Laura N.

~ Dear Dr. Burke, Your remarkable book Forbidden Grief has been an absolutely indispensable resource in helping our team of writers to understand the trauma and pain that follows in the wake of an abortion.

Remember us in your Will

May I invite you today to join our “Priests for Life Legacy Family”? You can continue to protect the children whose lives our ministry saves even after the Lord calls you home!

There are various options you have when you do your estate planning, in conjunction with those who advise you.

Our team can discuss various ways you can make a bequest, or benefit
from a Charitable Remainder Trust. Consider Priests for Life when reviewing the beneficiary clauses of your pension fund, IRA accounts, Life Insurance, or Annuities.

All inquiries are treated with complete confidentiality.

Visit [www.PriestsForLifeLegacy.com](http://www.PriestsForLifeLegacy.com) or contact us in the following ways:

**Priests for Life**
Attn: Planned Giving Department  
PO Box 141172  
Staten Island, New York 10314-9920  
(718) 980-4400 x444  
PlannedGiving@PriestsForLife.org

### Your Influence on My Son

We often get beautiful notes like this one showing the lasting influence our presence and ministry has on young people and families – and future priests!

Father Frank and Janet,

I wanted to send you a sincere thank you for your influence on our son Matthew. Here is a picture with you gently pastoring him and our other kids; they all love you so much. Then a picture of Matthew as a teenager at the abortion clinic praying, and finally this past weekend as he was praying with the rest of his seminary class at that same abortion clinic and being harassed by the security guard there who posted a picture of him on Twitter as he was kissing his crucifix and praying the Rosary. Thank you for sowing these seeds!

~ God Bless you both, Matt and Kat Harrison
Pagan Politics

Victoria Garaitonandia Gisondi, Correspondence Associate

Increasingly, I see in the correspondence I answer for Priests for Life a common but misguided attitude that clergy who encourage their congregations to apply political solutions to social or moral problems are crossing some legal line. They incorrectly apply “separation of Church and State” to support their view. One example of the complaints we’ve received says, “I am very offended at your attempt to inflict the Catholic Church into this political scene. What ever happened to the separation of Church & State?”

Our country’s forefathers thought it wise, in the First Amendment, to prevent the state from ever imposing a religion on the people. It does not mean they ever intended to silence the Church or to make government godless. Our forefathers valued free speech in the church just as much as in the public square. In fact, the American Revolution, the abolition of slavery and the civil rights movement would not have taken place without pastors preaching from pulpits! When the Church ceases to talk about real issues affecting people, she becomes irrelevant.

How can the Church be relevant to society, if the Church can’t proclaim the law of God to society? The Church is the voice of God’s law, the voice of conscience, and our moral guidance. Politics that don’t acknowledge the authority of God and His higher law become tyrannical.

The problem is not that the Church is becoming too political; the problem is that politics have become too pagan. And it’s the role of the Church to correct that.

“Rachel’s Vineyard is a beautiful work; it is excellent. Move forward with that!”
-- Pope Francis to Fr. Frank Pavone

Dr Theresa Burke, founder of Rachel’s Vineyard and Pastoral Associate, Priests for Life travels across the United States and internationally in her post-abortion work. Above, Theresa is being interviewed by EWTN at the Los Angeles Religious Education Congress in February where she spoke to hundreds on “Pregnancy Loss and Unresolved Grief” and “Healing the Wounded Heart.”
Donate to Save Lives!

Priests for Life is not funded by Church entities, but by ordinary people like you! Please help us save lives by donating at our secure site, www.priestsforlife.org/donate, or sending a check made out to “Priests for Life” to Priests for Life, PO Box 141172, Staten Island, NY 10314.

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 888-735-3448 for assistance!

Thank you in advance for your generosity!