A Year Since the Reversal of Roe: 5 Things to Keep in Mind

Pro-life Leader Frank Pavone, National Director

It has been a year since the disastrous Roe v. Wade and Planned Parenthood v. Casey decisions were reversed by the US Supreme Court in the Dobbs case. Here are a few things to keep in mind about this milestone:

We have not yet fully absorbed what this means.
Both sides in the abortion debate, as well as the whole nation, are still adjusting to the sea change that the reversal of Roe brought about. For five decades, lawmaking, court proceedings, academia, media, activism and public discourse have been shaped by the holdings of Roe. It takes a while to adjust to a landscape without it. The first part of “adjusting” is “understanding.” We need to study and digest the Dobbs case, its holdings and its implications far better than we have done so far. (See SupremeCourtVictory.com for a helpful resource.)

The Court did not simply “return the issue to the states.”
As we were awaiting the final decision in Dobbs, other pro-life leaders and I were alerting lawmakers and the general public that the mantra that the abortion issue would “return to the states” was an oversimplification. The fact is that the shift Dobbs brought about was not so much vertical (federal to states) but horizontal (judicial to legislative branch). The Court returned abortion policy “to the people and their elected representatives” – that means at every level of government: federal, state, and local.

Dr. Alveda King, Board member and Senior Advisor of Priests for Life, was with Frank Pavone and Janet Morana in DC in May and received the George Washington award from Bishop E.W. Jackson, who is a great friend of our work. Frank was an honored guest at the event.

Please pray through the intercession of Padre Pio, that Pope Francis reverses his decision and reinstates Father Frank’s priestly functions - PrayerCampaign.org.
Meanwhile, he continues leading this ministry fulltime with the unanimous support of our Board.
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basis. But hiding behind this fake “dogma” meant that abortion supporters didn’t have to justify abortion on its merits. “It’s our right” summed up the argument. In the absence of such a “right,” and in the absence of any arguments to justify baby-killing, the abortion side resorts to re-inventing the fake right on the state level. That is why you see ballot initiatives to insert the mythical right into state constitutions. But as Dobbs pointed out, nowhere in the landscape of American history or jurisprudence is a “right to abortion” asserted until the late 20th century. Nor has “privacy” been a justification for killing. Those same arguments now must be used to counter state constitutional “rights” to abortion.

*We need to help politicians embrace rather than run from this issue.*

As we can see from the 2022 political victories of all the governors who signed strong pro-life laws after Dobbs, abortion is a winning issue if a candidate clearly, unapologetically, and compassionately addresses the issue head-on and shows that protecting children is not “extreme.”

That label, on the other hand, belongs to those who propose killing them up to birth. It is crucial that the pro-life movement strengthen all who seek or hold public office to use the opportunity Dobbs has given them to protect the most vulnerable, the unborn.

*We should continue both to celebrate and to double down on our work.*

As soon as Dobbs was decided, about ten states began protecting the unborn, and another 15 or so have come along with various levels of protection. Some of these laws are in effect, saving tens of thousands of lives already. Others are tied up in court, but the courts now have Dobbs as the controlling precedent rather than Roe and Casey, so we will see more victories in Court. And the pro-abortion forces now need to defend abortion on its merits rather than hiding behind the robes of judges. All of this needs to be celebrated. It is only right that the millions who have worked for five decades to reach this point should rejoice in the Lord and savor the victory. That savoring and celebrating, then, are to impel us to work even harder for the protection that still has to be implemented.

And it should fuel our certain hope that we will succeed.

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**Frank Pavone Receives Award at National Religious Broadcasters Conference**

Priests for Life National Director Frank Pavone, Pastoral Associate Alveda King and Communications Director Leslie Palma in May attended the annual conference of the National Religious Broadcasters (NRB), meeting this year in Orlando – practically our own back yard.

Our ministry has attended many of these conferences and the nation’s leading Christian broadcasters – including Eric Metaxas and Fox News’s Lauren Greene - always appreciate the pro-life perspectives and content that we bring and schedule us on their live shows and podcasts throughout the year.

Priests for Life actually provides pro-life radio spots, free of charge, to many of these outlets, including Bott Radio Network, which has more than 100 stations throughout the country.

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**Decline to Sign in Ohio gets an assist from Priests for Life’s Bryan Kemper**

If pro-aborts can’t collect the number of signatures they need to get a proposed amendment onto the Ohio ballot this November because of a statewide pro-life initiative called Decline to Sign, Priests for Life’s Bryan Kemper will deserve a pat on the back.

Bryan, who coordinates our street activism and youth outreach, is a well-known figure in his home town of Troy, Ohio.

When some young people showed up this week to collect signatures – a job for which they were being paid – Bryan got a call from a friend who owns a tattoo parlor in Troy. His message: Get downtown, fast!

Bryan spent most of the rest of that day trailing a young woman and telling everyone she approached the truth about the ballot amendment and how it would not only impose unlimited abortion onto the state constitution but also would

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At the conference, Frank Pavone received the Faithful Service Award from the Bott Radio Network.

“Frank Pavone is one of the most prominent pro-life leaders in the world,” Bott Chairman and CEO Rich Bott said in presenting the award before an audience of 1,000 attendees of the conference that brings together hundreds of Christian print, radio, television and digital journalists and leaders of a wide array of Christian ministries.

“His efforts have been recognized as a key factor in the reversal of Roe v. Wade,” Bott said. “His work has been praised by presidents, popes and countless citizens. I just want to thank you for your faithfulness to saving the lives of innocent unborn children.”

The plaque presented to Pavone included the following text: “For faithfully following the call on your life to rescue the least of these, whatever the cost.”

See photos and video at PriestsForLife.org/Frontlines.

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permit abortion to birth, make abortion available to underage girls and permit children to undergo sex change surgeries with zero parental consent or notice. The amendment also explicitly protects anyone who “assists” a minor with obtaining these life-altering procedures.

The woman twice approached Bryan’s under-18 son – clearly not a registered voter - to ask him to sign, and also tried calling police to get Bryan to stop shadowing her. Officers told her Bryan was exercising his freedom of speech just like she was.

From the time Bryan showed up until she gave up in frustration at the end of the day, the woman didn’t collect a single signature. She returned several days later, Bryan was there to greet her, and her day was just as fruitless.

Priests for Life initiatives for the coming months

Be assured there is no such thing as a summer slump at Priests for Life. We have several ongoing and soon-to-get-started projects, many geared to the 2024 elections. The initiatives include, but are not limited to:

Opposing State Abortion Amendments:
Priests for Life will mobilize people in the states and across the nation to fight effectively the state pro-abortion amendments that are being introduced.

Field Training of Priests for Life Volunteers:
Priests for Life is increasing the number and training of people in every state to help with all our initiatives.

Election Training in Partnership with Leadership Institute:
Priests for Life will conduct our longstanding election trainings both on the ground and online, and will have a special partnership with The Leadership Institute in carrying this out.

Biblical Foundations Project:
In partnership with the America First Policy Institute, Priests for Life is one of the original groups carrying out the “Biblical Foundations Project,” by which Churches and other ministries train citizens on the Biblical roots of America-First policies, including the defense of the unborn.

Our National Director is also launching new online courses in conjunction with a major Catholic group, and working on two new books, one in partnership with Dr. Alveda King and the other about the impact of Priests for Life.

Praise for Our Work

“The call to action alert you sent out to support desperately needed pro-life legislation here in Ohio is superbly written and certainly timely. Thank you so much!”

“Thank you for being the sound voice of a moral compass that keeps being challenged. May your work continue to save many children and with prayers, continue to bring Our Country and the World back to great of Faith in God. Love you, your staff and work.” – Cheryl

PrayerIntentions.org and ProLifePrayers.com

Leave us your prayer intentions as often as you like at PrayerIntentions.org and we will remember you in our prayers and Masses!

Visit ProLifePrayers.com for prayers and resources.

July intention: That our nation’s celebration of independence may turn its thoughts to securing the freedoms and rights of the unborn.
**Featured Products:**

**Christmas for the Unborn**
Reflections by Frank Pavone that examine our duty to protect the unborn from abortion, through the lens of the various theological, historical and spiritual dimensions of Advent and Christmas.

**Little Star**
In this touching retelling of the nativity story, Anthony DeStefano has produced a modern Christmas classic for children.

**Six Prayer Booklet Set**
This prayer booklet series written by Frank Pavone leaves readers with a sense of wholeness in the journey called life and how our Faith can bring peace and joy to all those we come across including ourselves.

**“Pray to End Abortion” apparel bundle**
Includes a V-neck T-Shirt and zip up hoodie both with a pocket tee size graphic on the front side and a centered graphic on the back. Also includes a navy and gray winter ski cap.

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**Order at ProLifeProducts.org or use this form and the enclosed envelope.**

**Mail to:** Priests for Life • PO Box 236695 • Cocoa, FL 32923

**Email:** Orders@PriestsForLife.org Call 321-500-1000

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Name: ____________________________________________
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City: __________________________ State: ____________ Zip: ______________
Phone: ____________________ Email: ___________________

- □ Send ___ Christmas for the Unborn (#3272) at $5 each. Total: $___________
- □ Send ___ Little Star (#2523) at $10 each. Total: $___________
- □ Send ___ Six prayer booklets in red burlap bag (#4590) at $15 each. Total: $___________
- □ Send ___ “Pray to End Abortion” apparel bundle (#4624) at $75: Total: $___________

Choose V Neck T-Shirt Size: ____S     ____M    ____L    ____XL    ____XXL
Choose Zip Up Hoodie Size: ____S     ____M    ____L    ____XL    ____XXL

The ski cap is one size and fits most.

**We would appreciate an extra donation to cover shipping and handling.**

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- □ Please charge my contribution to my credit card:
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