

PRIESTS FOR LIFE

Gospel of Life Ministries

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

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www.priestsforlife.org

Number 6

Pro-life Meditations for the Advent and Christmas Seasons

(For more, see www.priestsforlife.org)

- The song “O Holy Night” includes the following words: *“Truly he taught us to love one another. His law is love, and his gospel is peace. Chains shall be break, for the slave is our brother, and in his name all oppression shall cease.”* At Christmas, we renew our commitment to ending all oppression, particularly of those who are most oppressed, the children in the womb.
- The Christmas angels sing, *“Glory to God in the Highest.”* What is the glory of God? The human person, alive, and reflecting at every moment the wonder of God’s love. Human life, in fact, is always a reflection of God’s glory -- whether big or small, healthy or sick, born or unborn.
- On Christmas, the angels did not simply announce that the newborn child was the “Messiah of the Lord.” Rather, they announced that he is “Messiah and Lord.” God didn’t just send a Messiah; *he came himself.* This is the feast not only of the *birth* of Jesus, but of the Incarnation -- the whole mystery of God becoming human. Jesus was an embryo, a fetus, an unborn child. Life in the womb, which was already sacred because it comes from God, is now made even more holy, and worthy of our every sacrifice. Thanks to Christmas, there are no strangers, and the protection of everyone’s life is our business.
- We think about Mary’s initial fear and uncertainty in the face of her unexpected pregnancy. Then, in every Church in the world, believers spiritually rush to her side to eagerly await with her the birth of the Savior. The best way for a parish to celebrate Christmas is to rush physically to the side of those in the community who, like Mary, are uncertain and afraid about their pregnancy. We are to accompany them through their pregnancy with support and encouragement, and help them experience the fact that every birth reflects the joy of the birth of Christ.

Silent No More Gatherings: Join us!

The Silent No More Awareness Campaign is a clearinghouse for post-abortion healing opportunities (See our new one-stop search engine at www.SilentNoMoreAwareness.org!) as well as for testimonies of those who have had abortions.

One of the key ways that awareness about both is raised is through public gatherings at which women and men share their testimonies and call on all those who need healing to embrace it with new hope. Such gatherings take place either as independent events in public

parks and sidewalks, or in conjunction with prayer vigils at abortion mills or pro-life marches and rallies.

At the Walk for Life in San Francisco on Saturday, January 22, as well as at the March for Life in Washington DC on Monday, January 24, such gatherings will take place.

We encourage all of you who have had an abortion, and have gone through healing to join us at one of these events, and help by either by holding an *I Regret My Abortion* or *I Regret Lost Fatherhood* sign or giving your own testimony. Please contact us at mail@silentnomoreawareness.org to get involved! See the links to both events on our events page, www.priestsforlife.org/marchforlife, for more information.



From Left to Right, Janet Morana, Fr. Frank Pavone, Jennifer O'Neill and Georgette Forney represent the Silent No More Awareness Campaign at the March for Life

And we invite everyone, whether you have lost a child to abortion or not, to help spread the invitation to healing and the words of testimony. You will see how at www.SilentNoMoreAwareness.org. This is also a key element of our 10StepsToEndAbortion.com initiative.

A Pro-life iPhone App

Priests for Life is happy to announce the release of “iPFL,” a new iPhone app available in the iTunes store for clergy and others who want to receive liturgical resources that emphasize the pro-life message.



Priests for Life is among the very first groups to create a pro-life app for the iPhone. You can find it by looking up “pro-life” or “Priests for Life” on the iTunes store. This app provides for each Sunday of the year, for all three cycles, the following information:

- Homily hints related to pro-life themes in the readings
- A set of General Intercessions
- A paragraph for inclusion in that Sunday’s bulletin

This is the first of several apps we will create; the second is now in the works and will be a pro-life reflection for every day. For more information, see www.priestsforlife.org/prolifeliturgicalresources.

This newsletter is available by email, along with a bi-weekly column written by Fr. Frank. Subscribe free of charge at subscribe@priestsforlife.org.

Father Peter Pilsner

Father Peter Pilsner’s pro-life ministry began in Seaford, L.I. “From very early on, I was always aware of the issue,” said Father Pilsner, now the chaplain and religion teacher at Cardinal Spellman High School in the Bronx.

As a high school student himself, Father Pilsner worked alongside Dolores Andreski, “the pro-life saint of Long Island,” at abortion mill protests and meetings of the Long Island Coalition for Life. “Her devotion to the cause of life continues to inspire me,” he said.

At Gannon University, Erie, Pa., he was president of the student pro-life club. In seminary at St. Joseph’s in Yonkers, N.Y., he helped organize the first mass for seminarians on the morning of the March for Life in Washington, D.C.

Ordained a priest of the Archdiocese of New York in 1989 by Cardinal John J. O’Connor, he continued to support the March for Life as he served two Staten Island parishes, St. Rita’s and St. Joseph-St. Thomas. At Spellman, he moderates the Pro-Life Club and the Pro-Life Befrienders, a group that equips teenage girls to reach out to pregnant or post-abortive peers.

“The befrienders are not counselors -- we don’t put that on their shoulders -- but if a girl is pregnant, they are going to know about it before I do, so I familiarize them with all the resources that offer help” he said.

Father Pilsner is also a chaplain for the Sisters of Life.

National Night of Prayer

The year 2010 will mark the 21st annual National Night of Prayer for Life to take place from 9 PM Dec. 8th (Wednesday) to 1 AM Dec. 9th (Thursday).

The National Night of Prayer for Life is a pro-life prayer service consisting of exposition and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 20 decades of the Rosary, prayer to St. Michael, silent time, and other prayers and hymns.

For more information and to download prayers, instructions and flyers go to www.nationallightofprayer.org, where you can also order prayer and homily resources.

Pro-Life Novenas

Please join us at www.PrayerCampaign.org in praying and promoting the following Novenas:

November 28–December 24: Advent Prayer for Life

December 4-12, 2010: Our Lady of Guadalupe Novena

Prayer Intentions

You are encouraged to remember the following intentions as you pray the Liturgy of the Hours:

NOVEMBER INTENTION:

For those who have dedicated themselves to full-time pro-life work.

DECEMBER INTENTION:

That confessors may have gentleness and wisdom in dealing with penitents who have committed abortions.

Featured Products

Find great Christmas gifts at our online store – www.priestsforlife.org/store

Order at www.priestsforlife.org/store or mail your order to: Priests for Life, P.O. Box 141172, Staten Island, NY 10314; Or fax: (718) 980-3900; Or Email: orders@priestsforlife.org.

Little Star

How do parents explain to children that God’s love is the greatest love of all and that He always sees them, never forgets about them, and is always with them? In this touching retelling of the nativity story, best-selling author Anthony DeStefano (*A Travel Guide to Heaven, and Ten Prayers God Always Says Yes To*), has produced a modern Christmas classic for children.



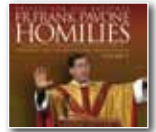
Priests for Life 2011 Wall Calendar – Get it while supplies last!

This calendar helps you keep the pro-life movement front and center in your mind. Unlike any other wall calendar, it marks for you the days that have special significance to our movement.



Fr. Frank’s Homilies from the EWTN Live Televised Mass

Now, you can have your own copies of some of the best homilies that Fr. Frank Pavone has given on EWTN.



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