

Lifespan

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
and before you were born I consecrated you.” Jeremiah 1:5

2017 First Quarter

Worldwide News... [Source: SPUC]

Belgium—In yet another illustration of the confusion sown by the pontificate of Pope Francis, Bishop Johan Bonny of Antwerp, Belgium, suggested that homosexual couples, divorced and remarried Catholics, and cohabiting pairs should be given some sort of Church blessing as part of a “diversity of rituals” that would recognize the “exclusiveness and stability” of their unions.

Canada, British Columbia—A woman who drowned her newborn baby so that she could get to an exam at Kamloops’ Thompson Rivers University was sentenced to only two years probation by a sympathetic provincial court judge because she claimed the baby was the result of a sexual assault. Pro-life advocates were outraged at the verdict, rightfully arguing that the excuses used to justify abortion are now applicable to the murder of newborns, and that the judge’s acceptance of the circumstances is tantamount to decriminalizing child murder by establishing judicial precedent. Courtney Saul, now 19, gave birth to a baby boy, whom she named George Carlos, in the morning of December 15 in the bathroom of her basement apartment in Kamloops. “She held the baby for some time, but she had an exam that day. Because she had the exam, she didn’t know what to do. She finally decided she should drown the baby. She did that in the sink and then she went to her exam.”

Canada, Ontario—Bill 28, which redefines the family to appease LGBTQ activists, was passed unanimously in the Ontario legislature by 79 MPPs from all three parties, with 28 MPPs absent for the vote. According to Campaign Life Coalition, Progressive Conservative leader Patrick Brown pressured his MPPs to either vote for the bill or absent themselves. Pro-family groups have criticized the Liberal government for ramming through the controversial “All Families Are Equal Act.” The All Families Are Equal Act legally redefines “mother” and “father” as “parent” to accommodate homosexual couples that conceive children through artificial reproductive means.

Canada, Vancouver—Trinity Western University secured a significant victory in their battle for religious freedom when a British Columbia Appeals Court unanimously overturned the decision of the province’s Law Society to reject future graduates of the school on the grounds that their religious beliefs conflict with secular notions on homosexuality and other issues. The Appeals Court ruled that the rejection of said students “denies these evangelical Christians the ability to exercise fundamental religious and associative rights . . . assured to them under section 2 of the Charter [of Rights and Freedoms].”

China—In reaction to news that the Vatican was considering allowing the communist government of China to oversee the selection of the nation’s Catholic bishops, the 84-year-old former bishop of Hong Kong spoke out, saying that such an action would be tantamount to “betraying Jesus.” Cardinal Joseph Zen firmly opposes any action that would add legitimacy to the state-run Chinese Catholic Patriotic Association, stating that such a move would alienate authentic Catholics who worship in the underground Church, that which is the true church in union with Christ and His representative, the Pope.

France—The socialist government of France has now made it illegal to speak out in opposition to abortion or even to dissuade someone from having one. The “digital interference” bill is aimed at French websites that would, in the words of the bill, “deliberately mislead, intimidate and/or exert psychological or moral pressure to discourage recourse to abortion.” Convicted website owners could face two years in prison and fines up to 30,000 euros (\$31,799 USD). This language essentially makes all pro-life opposition a crime. In addition, the French Broadcasting Council banned a video directed at encouraging women who receive a diagnosis of Down Syndrome during pregnancy. The award-winning video entitled “Dear Future Mom” produced in 2014 was made to alleviate the fears of pregnant mothers who have been given a Down syndrome diagnosis. It shows children of various ages with Down syndrome sharing details about their lives. The Council objected to the video because it showed children with Downs who were smiling; the Council stated that “depicting people with Down syndrome smiling was “inappropriate” because that showed they are “happy,” and such a depiction would “disturb the conscience of women who had lawfully made different personal life choices.”

Netherlands—The Dutch government has decided to expand their euthanasia law to include people who are not physically or psychologically sick but who believe that their “life is completed.” The majority of the nation’s parliamentarians support the plan.

Norway—Norway’s health minister ruled that foreign women pregnant with multiple babies are allowed to reduce them via abortion in Norwegian hospitals, even if the babies are perfectly healthy. “All women, regardless of whether they are Norwegian or foreign women residing in Norway have the same right to abortion and fetal reduction,” said Torunn Janbu, a representative of Norway’s Directorate of Health.

Rome—New guidelines about the interpretation of *Amoris Laetitia* issued for the pope’s own diocese of Rome suggest that couples living in a state the Church labels objectively sinful may in limited circumstances receive Holy Communion in a “discreet manner.” The release of the new guidelines follows closely on the Vatican’s authentication of a letter from Pope Francis to Argentine bishops affirming that the only valid interpretation of the exhortation is one that similarly liberalizes sacramental practice.

National News... [Source: SPUC]

California—When the liberal left controls the seat of government, bad things happen. Within the last few months alone, the state has further entrenched the culture of death. First, non-

profit medical clinics that exist to provide life-affirming alternatives to abortion in the state of California will be forced to promote abortion or face severe financial consequences, after the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the state's so-called "Reproductive FACT Act." Signed into law Oct. 9, 2015, by Gov. Jerry Brown, the act went into effect Jan. 1, 2016, but has been largely unenforced while municipalities waited out a series of lawsuits challenging the law's alleged infringement on free speech rights guaranteed by the Constitution's First Amendment. Now that the law will be enforced, the 75 pro-life pregnancy centers offering ultrasounds—all of which are state-licensed entities that operate completely free of taxpayer funds—must post or disseminate a state-mandated disclaimer notifying women in unexpected pregnancies of state-covered abortions and contraception offered through Medi-Cal, regardless of the fact that in doing so, these centers violate the principals upon which they are founded. Second, a federal judge handed the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) a temporary victory by allowing a lawsuit against pro-life religious government grantees to move forward. U.S. Magistrate Judge Laurel Beeler refused to dismiss the lawsuit brought by the ACLU of Northern California, which says that religious groups who receive federal money to assist illegal immigrant minors should be forced to cooperate with the provision of abortions. Third, California has promulgated a regulation to assure that the *mentally ill who have been ordered hospitalized* in California have access to assisted suicide if they are dying and deemed able to make medical decisions. From 9 *California Code of Regulations* § 4601: (a) A terminally ill patient, as defined by the End of Life Option Act, may petition the superior court for access to participate in activities under the End of Life Option Act by *requesting release from the custody of the Department of State Hospitals from the court*. If the court orders release from the custody of the Department of State Hospitals, the Department of State Hospitals shall release the patient to the ordered entity or person. People who are found by a court, beyond a reasonable doubt, to be *a danger to themselves* or others can be involuntarily hospitalized for psychiatric reasons. It is interesting that a state that abhors the death penalty for criminals does not mind killing the vulnerable and mentally ill. Last and perhaps most unbelievable, the state has effectively legalized child prostitution beginning January 1st. SB 1322 bars law enforcement from arresting sex workers who are under the age of 18 for soliciting or engaging in prostitution, or loitering with the intent to do so. So teenage girls (and boys) in California will soon be free to have sex in exchange for money without fear of arrest or prosecution.

This terribly destructive legislation was written and passed by the progressive Democrats who control California's state government with a two-thirds "supermajority." Criminals who prey on children in the sex trade now have total license to abuse and enslave the most vulnerable. Liberalism is truly a mental disorder and it proves itself to be so time and time again.

Colorado—Colorado voted to legalize physician-assisted suicide by a margin of 65 to 33 percent. Proposition 106 created the "Colorado End of Life Options Act" allowing doctors to prescribe lethal drugs to patients age 18 and over who have

been diagnosed with a terminal illness and have been assessed to have six or fewer months to live. The law requires two doctors to agree that the patient is in the final stages of a terminal illness. Patients will not be asked to undergo a mental health examination.

Maryland—Pro-life pregnancy centers have won a battle in the fight for life in Baltimore after a federal judge ruled that the city cannot force such centers to post signs notifying potential clients that they do not provide or refer for abortion services.

Kentucky—The American Civil Liberties Union of Kentucky (ACLU) filed a federal lawsuit last Monday against Kim Davis and Rowan County, demanding \$233,058 in expenses for suing to force Davis to sign her name to same-sex "marriage" licenses. Some consider Davis a hero and others, a villain after she refused to sign homosexual "marriage" licenses in 2015. Davis sincerely believed that doing so would imply her consent and participation in something the Bible deems sinful.

Ohio—The state recently passed legislation that will protect ministers, clergy and church property from lawsuits filed by gay activists who demand church services for "gay marriages." The legislation allows the clergy to exercise religious liberty and only perform ceremonies that conform to their deeply held religious beliefs. The bill aims to protect Ohio's pastors and church organizations from being forced to violate their conscience.

Tennessee—A Catholic school in the Diocese of Nashville has permanently expelled a student because the parents opposed a mandatory sex-ed course that they deemed to be "erotic" and a "near occasion" of sin. On September 28, Father Ryan High School president Jim McIntyre told parents Jason and Susan Skinner that because of their opposition to the sex-ed along with their "public airing of discontent" they could not continue sending their ninth-grade son to school unless they "concluded" their dissatisfaction. The "Human Sexuality" course taught as part of Father Ryan High School's Theology course offers graphic images and erotic sexual details concerning male and female body parts. Not only do students learn the pleasure points of the male and female reproductive organs, but they also learn biological details about male and female genitals in a state of arousal. Students also learn 10 different forms of contraception and are tested on how they function. The sad truth here is that Catholic schools are no longer safe havens against the culture of evil that is blossoming throughout our society, nor are its shepherds acting in accordance with the teachings of Christ and their vocation to protect the faithful.

Texas—A federal judge has stopped President Obama's policy forcing public schools to allow boys in the girls' locker room. U.S. District Court Judge Reed O'Connor rejected the Obama administration's request to lift an injunction against enforcement of the transgender bathroom policy put forth by the Department of Education. In response to 13 state attorney generals, Judge O'Connor issued the nationwide injunction in August. The Justice Department requested the injunction at least be limited to the 13 objecting states, but O'Connor ruled against the Obama administration. In addition, Texas abortion facilities will no longer be allowed to throw aborted babies' bodies in landfills or down the garbage disposal. Instead, they

will be required to bury or cremate them. The Texas Department of Health and Human Services proposed the rules in July and finalized their decision in December despite opposition from abortion supporters who called the decision “morally offensive”.

Did You Know...

- ⇒ **Did you know that** San Francisco celebrated Planned Parenthood’s centennial year of existence with a party inside its city hall, the outside of which was lit up pink for the occasion? New York hosted a similar celebration at its city hall.
- ⇒ **Did you know that** National Geographic magazine decided to feature a 9-year-old transgender boy on its January 2017 cover? Cheerleaders for the “gender revolution,” NG is promoting a political agenda over science and the well being of children. According to Dr. Michelle Cretella, President of the American College of Pediatricians, “*Affirming so called transgender children means sterilizing them as young as 11 years old . . . Puberty blockers plus cross-sex hormones cause permanent sterility. And biological girls who ‘transition’ to male by taking testosterone may have a double mastectomy at age 16. The life time use of cross-sex hormones also puts these children at risk for stroke, heart disease, diabetes, cancers and more.*” Additionally, statistics show that 75-95% of children with gender dysphoria outgrow the condition by the time they reach their late teens.
- ⇒ **Did you know that** Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling suggested that the series’ new prequel film *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* will feature a same-sex relationship between prominent characters? In 2007, Rowling said she viewed Albus Dumbledore, the wizarding school’s wise, gifted headmaster, as gay. Dumbledore is a Gandalf-like character and mentor to the series’ protagonist. Considering the millions of children who idolize the Potter characters, this is nothing but an undisguised attempt to promote homosexuality and parents should let Rowling know their displeasure by boycotting the film.
- ⇒ **Did you know that** a book defending traditional marriage was dropped by the printer on the grounds that the subject matter was “objectionable”? Dr. David van Gend, a general practitioner in Queensland, Australia, is the author of *Stealing from a Child: the Injustice of “Marriage Equality.”* He makes a strong case for traditional marriage, attacks the “genderless agenda” and critiques the push for gay marriage. He describes it as “a manifesto in defense of society’s inviolable foundation: Father, Mother, Child.”
- ⇒ **Did you know that** Airbnb users must sign a non-discrimination commitment affirming that they will treat guests and hosts “without judgment or bias” regardless of “sex, gender identity,” and “sexual orientation?” The peer-to-peer residence rental site released this new policy after facing accusations of racism. Once again, the LGBT thugs have raised their bully club.
- ⇒ **Did you know that** John Podesta, chairman of Hillary Clinton’s failed presidential campaign, helped to set up groups like Catholics United and Catholics in Alliance for the Common

Good (CACG), hoping to swing Catholic opinion toward liberal positions, in opposition to clear Church teaching? Frankly that shouldn’t be too surprising; it’s been going on for at least 50 years. What’s more remarkable, really, is how smoothly staff members have moved between the U.S. bishops’ conference and Podesta’s pet groups. Also, CACG drew much of its leadership from *within* the staff of the U.S. bishops’ conference. Presumably they held much the same views, and *worked toward much the same goals*. If they are “anti-Catholic,” then it seems “anti-Catholicism” has found sanctuary and support from our bishops. Make of that what you will.

- ⇒ **Did you know that** in 1983, there were no reported cases of chlamydia? In 1984, the CDC recorded 7,594 cases nationwide and after 32 years of prevention efforts, reported chlamydial infections have reached an all-time high of 1,526,658 cases by 2015. That’s an increase of 20,103 percent. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, taxpayers spend \$94,000,000 per year on STD prevention through the CDC. Despite this “prevention” effort, the CDC claims that: “The cost of STDs to the U.S. healthcare system is estimated to be as much as \$16 billion annually.” This is a case study in failed governmental policy. Re-thinking abstinence anyone?
- ⇒ **Did you know that** the United Kingdom’s Care Quality Commission released a report on the dangerous and negligent practices at the Marie Stopes International abortion chain that provided more than ample cause to shut it down? According to the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC), the Commission stated that 2,634 “incidents” had been recorded at the 12 MSI locations between 2015 and 2016, an increase of 704. And it had “issued four warning notices . . . in response to regulatory breaches around ‘consent, safeguarding, care and treatment, and governance’.”
- ⇒ **Did you know that** the abortion rate in Cuba is among the highest in the world? Additionally, among UN member states, it is **the** highest according to 2015 statistics. Where communism thrives, so does abortion.

Action Corner...

College Republicans at DePaul University were prohibited by the university president from displaying posters on campus advertising their group with the pro-life message, “Unborn Lives Matter.” Vincentian Father Dennis Holtschneider, president of DePaul University, indicated to the university community on Friday in a letter that the “Unborn Lives Matter” message constituted “bigotry” occurring “under the cover of free speech.” According to the Daily Wire, the banning of the students’ pro-life posters was not the first message conflicting with Catholic principles generated from DePaul University. This year’s scheduled commencement honoree was alumnus Martin Castro, chair of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights (USCCR), who has used his position to advocate for same-sex “marriage” and gender ideology. Last year, the university proposed a policy allowing students to choose preferred gender pronouns and change their names up to three times for use on class rosters and other college records, despite the fact that “gender theory” contravenes Church teaching on human sexu-

ality. DePaul was on a list of colleges found last year by the Cardinal Newman Society (CNS) to have an internship and/or a job referral link to Planned Parenthood, and CNS also found last year that DePaul had encouraged students via social media posts to advocate same-sex “marriage” and take part in LGBT pride parades and marches.

Action Steps:

Email Father Dennis Holtschneider @
<mailto:DePaulPresidentsOffice@depaul.edu>

Catholic Relief Services facilitated the distribution of more than two million units of various types of contraception, including abortifacients, in the Democratic Republic of Congo over the course of four years, the Lepanto Institute says in a new report. The program resulted in skyrocketing birth control use in the region where previously, residents had minimal knowledge of contraception according to Lepanto. The U.S. Bishops’ international relief agency was an implementing partner from 2006 to 2010 in the U.S.-funded Project AXxes, in which “family planning” was a “key objective,” delivering contraception, including abortifacients, Intra Uterine Devices (IUD) and related insertion kits, and also surgical sterilization kits, according to the program documents. The documents also reveal that CRS’s efforts included ensuring that “family planning” messaging and the above mentioned supplies were part of the vaccination, neonatal, Prevention of Mother-to-Child Transmission of HIV (PMTCT) and other aspects of the USAID-funded project.

Action Steps:

Visit the contact page of Catholic Relief Services
<http://www.crs.org/about/contact-crs>

On September 30th, Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore was suspended—thrown out of office—until his term ends January 2019. The Court of the Judiciary needed a unanimous vote in order to “officially” kick him out, but they couldn’t get that required number, so they simply changed the rules and suspended him for the remainder of his term. Because he will have reached his 70th birthday before January 2019, he will not be permitted to run for a judicial office again. Additionally, suspension for life removes the Chief Justice from the bench without pay, insurance and prohibits him from drawing on his retirement. This ludicrous decision has been appealed.

Action Steps:

Contact Acting Chief Justice Lyn Stuart and express your disbelief and outrage that she is ignoring the fact that Chief Justice Moore has appealed the September 30th decision. Stuart is ignoring the appeal process and is assuming the decision by the Court of the Judiciary will stand. She is making a very public statement that she believes Judge Moore is guilty and will lose the appeal.

Action Steps:

Call 334-229-0700 and ask for Acting Chief Justice Lyn Stuart’s office.

The pro-family group One Million Moms is calling on its followers to urge Zales Jewelers to get out of the homosexual “marriage” business and to stop “normalizing sin” by pulling

its commercial featuring a lesbian “wedding.” One Million Moms (OMM), a division of American Family Association, is asking Zales to “remain neutral in the culture war.” OMM said, “Zales Jewelers should be ashamed of attempting to normalize sin by featuring two women getting married in their latest commercial. It shows two women in wedding gowns exchanging vows and wedding bands. Zales is promoting same-sex “marriage” with their new “Love and Pride” Collection. The wedding band collection, designed for the LGBTQ community with rainbow and matching bands, is “promoting Equality, Diversity, and Unity” as stated on their website.

Action Steps:

Call Zales at 1-800-311-5393
Contact Zales online: [Facebook Page](#) or [Website Form](#)
E-mail Zales directly at kkanary@jewels.com

Catholic Watch...

Members of the Pontifical Academy for Life will no longer be required to sign a declaration that they uphold the Church’s pro-life teachings.

In new statutes for the Vatican body promulgated on November 4, Pope Francis has also expanded its mandate to include a focus on the environment.

Previous statutes were issued in 2004 and enumerate the “specific tasks” (§2) of the Academy in three points: to “study questions and issues connected with the promotion and defense of human life from an interdisciplinary perspective,” to “educate in a culture of life,” and to “inform the Church and the public [...] about the most relevant results of its study and research activities.”

In the new statutes, §3 has received an addition: whereas the paragraph previously stated that research of a scientific character must “be directed towards the promotion and defense of human life,” the new paragraph reads:

“The Academy has a task of a prevalently scientific nature, directed towards the promotion and defense of human life (cf. *Vitae Mysterium*, 4). In particular, it studies the various aspects that relate to the care of the dignity of the human person at the different ages of existence, mutual respect between genders and generations, the defense of the dignity of each single human being, the promotion of a quality of human life that integrates material and spiritual value, with a view to an authentic “human ecology,” which may help to recover the original balance of Creation between the human person and the entire universe (cf. *Chirograph*, 15 August 2016).”

The surprise is the inclusion of the word “gender” instead of the more specific and less loaded word “sex,” as well as the consideration of the quality of a human life in a dependent relation with the “entire universe.” This leaves the door open to all kinds of modern trends, such as elevating animal life to equal standing with human life, or putting the idea of a sociological gender before the natural sex of a person. At the same time, the ambiguous “original balance of Creation” is introduced, which needs further theological exposition in order not to be mistaken for a pagan idea of the cosmos.

Another drastic change for the PAV is the removal of the requirement for members to sign a “Declaration of the Servants of Life,” an avowal geared to members who are physi-

cians and medical researchers, which makes explicit the members' willingness to follow Church teaching on the sacredness of human life and an obligation to not perform "destructive research on the embryo or fetus, elective abortion, or euthanasia."

Also, Cardinal Raymond Burke has given an indication of the possible timeline of a "formal correction" of Pope Francis should the Pope not respond to the five *dubia* seeking clarity on *Amoris Laetitia*, presented to the Pope by four Cardinals, including Cardinal Burke.

"The *dubia* have to have a response because they have to do with the very foundations of the moral life and of the Church's constant teaching with regard to good and evil, with regard to various sacred realities like marriage and Holy Communion and so forth," Burke said during a telephone interview.

Notable Quotes...

"On the one front, you have a secular totalitarianism that wants to use the power of government to coerce us on every level . . . to determine even what happens inside of churches and synagogues, and to impose on us left-wing, frequently, atheistic values . . . We have not seen the Judeo-Christian historic traditions threatened the way they are today ever in American history . . . That dominant, secular mindset tells Christians, 'You're allowed to sort of, vaguely, believe in your faith as long as you don't talk about it—certainly don't do anything in public about it—and that religion should be reduced to one-hour on Sundays . . . And even then you better be careful what you say.'"

Newt Gingrich
10/4/16, North Carolina

"We live in a society that has rejected God but still tries to hold onto the values that really come from a Christian understanding . . . [But] without God, without the foundation for the values we hold to—of care for one another, of compassion, of even freedom and equality, which is grounded upon the dignity of each human being, because we are made in the image and likeness of God—when you remove that, you remove the basis for that understanding,"

Bishop Richard Umbers,
auxiliary bishop for the Archdiocese of Sydney

In these our dark times of doctrinal confusion, with its deceitful flashes of relativism, naturalism, anthropocentrism—oftentimes covered under the mask of "dialogue," under the mask of "pastoral accompaniment," under the mask of "surprises of the Holy Spirit"—in these dark times of such phenomenon, let us often invoke Our Lady, Our Mother, with confidence and filial love: "Rejoice—Gaude—O Virgin, my Lady, for thou alone has destroyed all heresies in the whole world. Mother of God, intercede for us."

Bishop Athanasius Schneider, Washington DC

Reflections...

Reading the Signs of Our Times...

The reflection to follow was written by the saintly Archbishop Fulton Sheen nearly 70 years ago, but the words resonate today

like thunder. Archbishop Sheen warned the faithful that the devil, whose trademark signature is to twist the truth to sell sin, and his anti-Christ will twist the minds of men to make them believe he is the "Great Humanitarian" who will "talk peace, prosperity and plenty."

His prophetic message is absolutely crucial for every sincere Christian who seeks to be faithful to Christ to the end. He states:

"The anti-Christ will not be so called, otherwise he would have no followers. He will wear no red tights, nor vomit sulphur, nor carry a spear nor wave an arrowed tail as Mephistopheles in Faust.

"Nowhere in Sacred Scripture do we find warrant for the popular myth of the devil as a buffoon who is dressed like the first 'red.' Rather is he described as a fallen angel, and as 'the Prince of this world' whose business it is to tell us that there is no other world. His logic is simple: if there is no heaven there is no hell; if there is no hell, there is no sin; if there is no sin, there is no judge, and if there is no judgment then evil is good and good is evil.

"But above all these descriptions, Our Lord tells us that He will be so much like Himself, that he would deceive even the elect—and certainly no devil we have ever seen in picture books could deceive even the elect. How will he come in this new age to win followers to his religion?"

[Signs of the anti-Christ:]

- 1. He will come disguised as the Great Humanitarian; he will talk peace, prosperity, and plenty, not as means to lead us to God, but as ends in themselves.*
- 2. He will write books on the new idea of God to suit the way people live.*
- 3. [He will] induce faith in astrology so as to make not the will but the stars responsible for our sins.*
- 4. He will explain guilt away psychologically as repressed sex, make men shrink in shame if their fellowmen say they are not broadminded and liberal.*
- 5. He will identify tolerance with indifference to right and wrong.*
- 6. He will foster more divorces under the disguise that another partner is "vital."*
- 7. He will increase love for love and decrease love for persons.*
- 8. He will invoke religion to destroy religion.*
- 9. He will even speak of Christ and say that he was the greatest man who ever lived.*
- 10. His mission, he will say, will be to liberate men from the servitudes of superstition and Fascism, which he will never define.*
- 11. In the midst of all his seeming love for humanity and his glib talk of freedom and equality, he will have one great secret which he will tell to no one; **he will not believe in God.** And because his religion will be brotherhood without the fatherhood of God, he will deceive even the elect.*

He will set up a counter-Church, which will be the ape of the Church because, he the devil, is the ape of God. It will be the mystical body of the anti-Christ that will in all externals resemble the Church as the mystical body of Christ. In desper-

ate need for God, he will induce modern man, in his loneliness and frustration, to hunger more and more for membership in his community that will give man enlargement of purpose, without any need of personal amendment and without the admission of personal guilt. These are days in which the devil has been given a particularly long rope.”

Sheen states that he raises his concerns about the anti-Christ, not because he fears for the survival of the Catholic Church, but because of the devastation the anti-Christ will bring upon those who have no faith.

“The Church may have its Good Fridays but these are only preludes to its Easter Sundays, for the Divine Promise shall never be made void: ‘. . . and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Behold I am with you all days, even to the consummation of the world.’ (Matthew 28:20) ‘Whosoever shall fall upon that stones shall be bruised.’ (Luke 20:18).”

Radio sermon by Archbishop Fulton J. Sheen in 1947
<https://www.lifesitenews.com/opinion/12-tricks-anti-christ-will-use-to-destroy-christians>

Miracle Moment...

Sometimes we all need a reminder that in trusting in God’s plan, the best outcomes are possible, even in the darkest situations. The story of the Wall family illustrates that beautifully and is worth re-telling.

Parents to-be Shelly and Rob Wall, received the most devastating news that expectant parents could hear: their baby boy was suffering from spina bifida, chromosome abnormalities and hydrocephalus. They were told that Noah had only 2% of his normal brain tissue and would likely die before or shortly after birth. The couple was advised to abort their son, advice that is routinely given in such circumstances.

They refused. Four years later, Noah is the feature in a new UK documentary.

“We were offered termination five times,” Rob Wall said in the documentary, “The Boy Without a Brain.” “It was never an option for us. To me, we wanted to give Noah that chance of life.”

Doctors had made such a strong case that Noah would die at birth that the couple planned a funeral for their son before he was even born. But to their great joy, after Noah was born on March 6, 2012, he let out a cry.

Noah was paralyzed from the chest down, but to his parents that didn’t matter. All that mattered was that he was alive.

In the years that followed, Noah had to undergo numerous surgeries and spent much time in the hospital due to medical complications. But, he survived and proved the doctors wrong.

Noah’s birth and life are itself a miracle. But God has a way of showing His hand in things, adding to the miraculous in a big way. At age four, a dumfounded medical community has admitted that Noah’s brain is now nearly functional. The impossible has become reality. Noah’s life is precious, and if his parents hadn’t held onto hope and believed their son deserved a chance, he wouldn’t be here today.

Noah proves abortion is never the answer.

Upcoming Events:

March for Life 2017, Washington DC

Friday, January 27th.

Details are as follows:

7:00–7:45am	Mass for Life: St. Leo’s Church 2427 Marietta Avenue
7:45–8:15am	Light breakfast provided by the Love for Life Team at St. Leo’s
8:30am	Buses depart for DC
11:30am	Buses arrive at Air & Space Museum in DC
12:00 noon	Rally for Life at the Mall
1:30–3:00pm	March on Constitution Ave. to Supreme Court Building
3:00–5:00pm	Designated activities including: visits to Congressional and Senate Reps; visit to pro-life exhibit and networking session- Marriott
5:15pm	Buses depart for PA
7:30pm	Dinner stop at Arundel Mall, MD
10:00pm	Return to St. Leo’s Church

The deadline for registration is January 24th.

Checks are payable to CDL.

Cost is \$10 per person; \$25 for families of three or more. Free seats are also available.

Please bring warm winter attire, including boots and cash for dinner.

Signs are welcome and can be stored in the bus luggage compartment.

Please mark your calendars and join us in the continuing fight for life!

Roe v. Wade Local Witness

Sunday, January 22, 2017

3:00-5:00pm

Details:

As many are unable to attend the DC March, CDL has sponsored a local witness commemorating the Roe v. Wade decision that legalized abortion in 1973.

Please come and join us at the Lancaster Courthouse at 50 N Duke St, Lancaster, PA 17602. Signs and posters are encouraged to let our fellow Lancastrians know why we are assembled!

Sanctity of Life Mass

Monday, January 23, 2017

7:00pm

The Order of Malta is sponsoring its annual Sanctity of Life Mass at St. Joseph’s Church, 440 St. Joseph’s St., Lancaster PA 17602. The Most Reverend Edward C. Malesic, Bishop of Greensburg will be the celebrant and homilist.

On and off site parking with shuttle service will be provided. Shuttles will run 60 minutes prior & 30 minutes after the Mass. Contact Gerry Ganse @ 717-577-2735 with questions.

Please help us to save money in producing this newsletter by sending us your email address to LifespanPA@aol.com