

## *Bulletin Inserts*

**April 6** – “An abortion ends a human life – a defenseless, vulnerable, utterly innocent human life. How has our culture gotten to the point where the tragedy of this fact is lost on so many, when in all other ways we view ourselves as more civilized and humane than at any point in human history?” Ken Connor, Chairman of the Center for a Just Society, Washington, DC.

**April 13** – “(The) defense of unborn life is closely linked to the defense of each and every other human right. It involves the conviction that a human being is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at every stage of development.” Pope Francis, apostolic exhortation, “The Joy of the Gospel,” 11/26/13

**April 20** – As we celebrate the Easter gift of new life, Pope Francis’ recent words speak of the value of each life: “Human beings are ends in themselves and never a means of resolving other problems. Once this conviction disappears, so do solid and lasting foundations for the defense of human rights, which would always be subject to the passing whims of the powers that be.” “The Joy of the Gospel,” 11/26/13

**April 27** – On December 13, 2013, the Belgian Senate voted to extend its 2002 euthanasia law to cover terminally-ill children. Belgium thus becomes the first country in the world to remove any age limits on euthanasia. As always euthanasia supporter cloak their action in caring terms: “The principle of euthanasia for children sounds shocking at first, but it’s motivated by compassion and protection,” according to John Harris, a professor of bioethics at the University of Manchester.

**May 4** – In a commentary on Belgium’s embrace of euthanasia, Dr. Peter Saunders wrote, “It is widely acknowledged that euthanasia is out of control in Belgium: a 500% increase in cases in ten years; one third involuntary; half not reported; euthanasia for blindness, anorexia and botched sex change operations; organ transplant euthanasia; the extension of euthanasia to children and people with dementia.” As one commentator has noted, “Belgium has leaped headfirst off a moral cliff.” Life Site News, 11/26/13

**May 11** – A unique story showing why mothers are so special: An ultrasound at 20 weeks revealed a baby with a severe bone growth disorder. Advised to end baby Ryan’s life, his 26 year old mother decided that her child deserved a chance. “If he was going to pass anyway, I wanted him to go on his own terms. It didn’t seem right to make that decision for him before he’d had a chance at life.” Born on Christmas Day, 2011 Ryan spent a year in the hospital and today continues to do things doctors said he would never do. His mother, Natasha says of her son, “Ryan’s a gift. His differences just make him all the more special.” NRL News Online 12/12/13

**May 18** – Dr. Gordon Clark, a former abortionist, saw a pro-life billboard saying, “Abortion score: one dead, one wounded.” In a response to Oregon Right to Life, he stated, “No, one dead, and a whole bunch of people wounded, including the doctor, the nurses involved... the grandparents, the father of the baby... all of these people have been wounded.... Knowing that I’ve been wounded, and knowing that I’ve wounded others, talking about it and bringing it out... is useful. It’s time to make a decision, and say, ‘this has to change.’ Our society can’t go on this way, of pretending it’s hunky-dory. It’s not. It’s murder...” LifeNews.com, 9/12/13

**May 25** – In our supposedly civilized, humane society, “Our hearts bleed for the melting ice caps, exploited natural resources, vanquished species, economic injustice, racial inequality, gender discrimination... you name it and there’s a group dedicated to raising awareness for it. Why on earth this same righteous sense of justice isn’t felt for the plight of the unborn is beyond me.” Ken Connor, Chairman of the Center for a Just Society, Washington, D.C

**June 1** – We need to stop cloaking the ugliness of abortion with misnomers like “proper medical coverage” or “choice.” It’s violence of the most intimate sort, and it needs to end.” Charles J. Chaput, Archbishop of Philadelphia

**June 8** – Thinking about the possible connection between Detroit’s bankruptcy and its high rate of abortion (37.9 per 1000 women of childbearing age), a writer for Ohio Right to Life observes, “Americans would be sorely remiss if we overlook the fact that Detroit is desperately in need of the very thing that abortion deliberately takes: life, minds, human power and ingenuity. If we continuously fail to address this grave social issue—the depletion of human brainpower by means of abortion— then we will continue to set America up for her collapse and the extinguishing of all her lights.” NRLC News Today, 8/7/13

**June 15** – Reflecting on fathers and abortion, columnist Patt Morrison wrote, “So many otherwise decent men need to stop taking refuge in the noxious excuse ‘Well, it’s her decision.’ It is, in countless cases, not because women want to make the decision alone but because men ‘honored’ their ‘right to choose.’ What a cop-out on the part of men, what an exercise in hypocrisy, what patent insincerity.”

**June 22** – “Only a tender, compassionate love that seeks to serve those most in need, whatever the personal cost, is strong enough to overcome a culture of death and to build a civilization of love.” Respect Life Sunday statement, Cardinal Sean O’Malley, 10/6/2012

**June 29** – Planned Parenthood’s annual report for 2012-13 reveals that over the past three reported years, Planned Parenthood has performed nearly one million abortions. In 2012 abortions made up 93.8% of the organization’s pregnancy services. Planned Parenthood receives public funding at a rate of \$1.5 million a day Life News, 12/13/13

## *Suggested Prayers*

**April 6** – That those who work to restore legal protection to the unborn may rely on the Holy Spirit for inspiration and strength, we pray

**April 13** – That the passion of Christ may encourage the pro-life movement to endure until the goal is accomplished, we pray

**April 20** – May we welcome the gift of each new life with the joy Jesus brought us at Easter, we pray

**April 27** – For all those who work in the abortion industry, that they may turn away from slavery to darkness, we pray

**May 4** – For all women facing untimely pregnancies that they may receive help from a caring community, we pray

**May 11** – That the gift of motherhood may be gratefully received regardless of difficult circumstances, we pray

**May 18** – For the elderly who are nearing the end of their journey, that we may value their life at its end, we pray

**May 25** – For the physically and mentally challenged, that their lives may be honored and protected, we pray

**June 1** – May our hearts and minds be enlightened to see what abortion is doing to this country, we pray

**June 8** – That the Holy Spirit may inspire us to change the hearts of those who do not value the right to life, we pray

**June 15** – For fathers and grandfathers of unborn babies threatened by abortion, that they strongly support their child’s right to life, we pray

**June 22** – For a halt to laws legalizing assisted suicide and euthanasia, we pray

**June 29** – For those who suffer for defending the right to life, we pray