March – April 2024

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM AMERICAN LIFE LEAGUE

LNEWS

A Word about American Life League's New National Director

By Judie Brown, President, American Life League

It is with humble pride and joy that I announce that my granddaughter, Kaitlynn Brown, is the new national director of American Life League. Katie, as we call her, comes from a family that has been steeped in Catholic teaching and in the philosophy that we must protect all human beings from the very first moment of creation.

Iudie Brown's

A belief in the sanctity of life cannot be injected into anyone, nor can someone be brainwashed into accepting the inviolable truth about the human person. Katie understands this truth because she has learned it, absorbed it, and lives by it.

In other words, Katie has within her heart, soul, and mind the competence required to address the task before her and make it her own. Katie is articulate, intelligent, and committed, not to mention gorgeous! What more could a grandmother ask!

It has always been my prayer that someone close to our family, who shared the principles of American Life League, would step into a leadership role with a conviction

to persist, insist, and be consistent in his or her commitment to God's children at every moment of their existence. Now that I know it is my very own granddaughter, I am more grateful to God than I can ever say.

It is an immense blessing to know that Katie has heard the Lord's invitation and has answered Him. Kaitlynn Brown has exhibited the willingness to give the leadership role at American Life League her all! Please pray for her, and praise God for her as well.



Alabama Supreme Court Rules IVF Embryos Are Children

The Supreme Court of Alabama has ruled that human embryos procreated in IVF labs should be recognized as children. The decision arises from a 2020 lawsuit brought by parents seeking damages from an IVF lab for the accidental deaths of their frozen, embryonic children. A trial court dismissed their claim. but the state's Supreme Court overruled that decision. The court explained that the state constitution recognizes the rights of preborn children and that the term "minor children" in the state's Wrongful Death of a Minor Act makes no distinction between in vitro and in utero children.

If it stands, the court's ruling could have consequences for the IVF industry. Though it would not ban IVF, it could force labs to enact regulations preventing the disposal and sale of embryonic children.

From Our Supporters

Lee wrote: "Yesterday, I heard of your organization on Janet Marshall's *In the Marketplace*. I looked up American Life League's Charity Watchlist and saw that a charity I've been supporting for decades was on the 'red' list: ChildFund. I admit I was a little suspicious years ago when they took the word 'Christian' out of their name (used to be Christian Children's Fund). I called this morning to cancel my support. The lady who took my call did not even ask why I was canceling."

Jack wrote that he was "inspired to pray the Marian Blue Wave" rosary each week after watching a video depicting action taken by the Progressive Anti-Abortion Uprising group. Members of this group found that 115 aborted babies had been discarded as medical waste, so they buried 110 of them at an undisclosed location. We thank you, Jack, and everyone else for understanding the humanity of all preborn babies.

Joan wrote: "We just equipped four new sidewalk ministries across the nation with supplies for their outreach. The new ministries were founded by people younger than my age group. We are blessed to have so many young people working for the babies and their mothers."

"If you trust in the Lord, strength will be given you from heaven and the world and the flesh will be made subject to your word."

Thomas à Kempis

The Spiritual Battle to End Abortion

By Katie Brown, Director, Marian Blue Wave

As we step into spring, ALL's Marian Blue Wave program remains a strong, powerful presence in the battle against abortion and spiritual evil.

MBW will celebrate its five-year anniversary this fall, with more than 2.5 million rosaries prayed for an end to abortion since 2019.

I was recently a guest on *Driving Home the Faith* with Fr. Rob Jack on Sacred Heart Radio. We discussed the origins of the



MBW and invited listeners to view abortion as a spiritual battle, not a political one. Fr. Rob asked what the program would focus on in the coming year. I shared that, based on the latest data, more than 52% of all abortions are now done via the abortion pill regimen.

This data shows that abortions are moving away from a brickand-mortar procedure to a DIY method.

The MBW has always asked its prayer partners to pray for a closure of all Planned Parenthood facilities. While this will remain a main focus, we are now seeking ways to intercede for the women being targeted by these dangerous at-home abortions.

At the start of Lent, I asked the MBW prayer partners to include one additional sacrifice in their Lenten practice for a mother considering abortion. Even if just half of our prayer partners included this sacrifice, that means MBW offered prayers for an additional 5,000 mothers.

We invite you to join the MBW not only in praying for these mothers but for an end to all abortions throughout the year.

Our Lady of Life, pray for us!

New Opportunities to Build a Culture of Life

By Susan Ciancio, Director, Culture of Life Studies Program

These are exciting times at the Culture of Life Studies Program! Earlier this year, a representative of our program showed off our lessons at the Catholic School Leaders Convocation in Los Angeles. Dozens of Catholic schools sent staff to this event, and all who stopped by our table were impressed with our program. Additionally, we will release two new lessons over the next several months. The first is a lesson on the Beatitudes for kids in elementary school. The second is a lesson on the Ignatian concept of *cura personalis*—care for the whole person—for high schoolers. Keep an eye on our website at **cultureoflifestudies.com**!

Unmasking Planned Parenthood's Evil

By Ed Martin, Director, Stop Planned Parenthood Int'l

So far, 2024 has been a busy year for STOPP! Planned Parenthood is ramping up its efforts to kill babies. It is pouring money into political campaigns for pro-abortion state referendums and candidates. We also see it focusing more on direct mail chemical abortions.

But STOPP has been fighting back.

First, during Black History Month, STOPP highlighted Planned Parenthood's historic racism and racist founder, even as the organization tried to hide its past. We emphasized Planned Parenthood's admission that its own staff and leadership are racist in the workplace and in their attitudes. STOPP also called attention to Planned Parenthood's continual targeting of minorities and the fact that it kills more black babies than any other race.

Second, STOPP is highlighting Planned Parenthood's massive costs to taxpayers at the state, local, and especially federal levels. Americans should not be paying for abortions, and we need to make it clear that this racket cannot continue. This includes pushing the pro-life Speaker of the House to lead on defunding Planned Parenthood. Stay tuned as these funding fights heat up and reveal who is really with us for life!

Third, we are energizing grassroots leaders to stop fearing the abortion debate and how the media portrays it. As Planned Parenthood ramps up mail-order chemical abortion, gender-destructive surgeries, and its push for "sex ed" in schools, more citizens see it as a threat. Shining a light on the truth of Planned Parenthood is a gateway to stopping its evil.





ALL produces a wide range of educational materials and pro-life merchandise crucial to building a CULTURE OF LIFE! Visit our online store at **ALL.ORG/SHOP**.

Wisdom from Catholic Bishops

We encourage each of you to reach out with gratitude to these courageous bishops. Visit USCCB.org/find-a-bishopand-diocese for contact information.



Bishop Ronald A. Hicks (Joliet, Illinois) offered encouraging words to his diocese about what our country needs in a post-*Roe* world: "Perhaps the court's ruling and recent public conversations, coupled with our own

prayers, will stir within the hearts, minds and souls of our elected political leaders a greater respect for the beauty and dignity of human life from conception to natural death. I ask that you join me in earnest and fervent prayer for not only the conversion of those in civic leadership, but for those in our own homes, families and communities."



Bishop Robert Gruss (Saginaw, Michigan) spoke about his sadness after pro-abortion victories at the polls. In a letter to the Diocese of Saginaw, Bishop Gruss reminds Catholics that "Jesus' Resurrection teaches us that, in the

end, life prevails." Let us use this encouragement as a reminder to vote our pro-life beliefs this year.



Bishop Mark Bartchak (Altoona-Johnstown, Pennsylvania) cautioned his flock to remain steadfast to Catholic teaching regarding abortion. He stated: "Catholic teaching is clear when it comes to upholding the sanctity of

every life from the moment of conception until the moment of natural death. The Church always stands in defense of the unborn, but our prolife commitment does not end there. Through the tireless efforts of our charitable outreach, we continue the good work begun by Jesus, Himself, by serving the poor, feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, welcoming the stranger, and accompanying every individual on his or her unique journey—regardless of their faith tradition. This includes women facing unplanned pregnancies."

Bishop Michael Burbidge (Arlington, Virginia) wrote in a January 2024 statement regarding the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*: "We remain steadfast in our commitment to work for the legal protection of every human life

from conception to natural death."

The Miraculous Human Being

By Judie Brown, President, American Life League

In February, *Newsweek* magazine ran a headline stating that the Alabama embryo ruling has brought "much-needed regulation to [the] fertility industry." This reminds us of the ever-present, ego-driven desires of human beings to play God. It is as if in our mechanized age we have forgotten that, when it comes to people, God is the Creator.

Even though we are over 45 years into the clinical creation of human embryos in IVF labs, we must understand that the practice of artificially creating human beings is not blessed by God. Truly, each baby is a blessing because God has permitted it to be so, but that does not excuse men and women of science for striving to be gods themselves.

In his wisdom, Cardinal Joseph Ratzinger (Pope Benedict XVI) addressed the problems created by the artificial creation of persons in laboratories when he wrote in *Donum Vitae*, "The gift of life which God the Creator and Father has entrusted to man calls him to appreciate the inestimable value of what he has been given and to take responsibility for it: this fundamental principle must be placed at the centre of one's reflection in order to clarify and solve the moral problems raised by artificial interventions on life as it originates and on the processes of procreation."

The remarkable details that comprise each human being are never the same because God created us all as unique individuals. This simple truth is the bedrock of our efforts to protect and defend every human being, especially those whose lives are at risk because of the dehumanizing practices that are so rampant in society today. When all is said and dono it is the Lord and

done, it is the Lord and His love that generates each miraculous human being. That is why we must always celebrate life, embrace those we love, and minister to those who need love.

> New commentaries from Judie Brown and guest authors are posted daily at ALL.org!

QUESTION & ANSWER

With the turmoil today, whom do you suggest we vote for in November?

We cannot tell you whom to vote for, but we want you to be aware that. though he professes to be Catholic, Joe Biden has repeatedly misrepresented the teachings of the Catholic Church. He is a man who has dedicated his life to supporting the murder of over 70.000,0000 babies. He officiated at a "marriage" of two men. He has helped provide billions of dollars to Planned Parenthood—an organization dedicated to murdering babies, to the deception and destruction of women, the destruction of the family, to the perversion and sexualization of children, and to the destruction of decency and morality.

In my lifetime, Joe Biden has claimed to be Catholic without actually following the tenets of the faith, and his deception, scandal, and evil and demonic pride have led many astray.

We must pray for the future of this country. We must tell the truth that a vote for Joe Biden is a vote for the murder of babies and the destruction of the family.

If you would like to know more about voting in accordance with our faith and about the four non-negotiables, read our Voter's Guide at **all.org/voter-guide**.

