

NEWS AND VIEWS FROM AMERICAN LIFE LEAGUE

## STOPP Director Joins the Trump Administration

By Katie Brown, National Director, American Life League

Moving into 2025, STOPP has a big announcement regarding its director, Ed Martin. In December, Ed was hand-selected by the Trump administration to serve as the Chief of Staff for the Office of Management and Budget, which decides how the government spends its money. Ed's background as a staunch pro-lifer and leader of the STOPP program makes him a great candidate for this position, especially since this administration is making Planned Parenthood its main target.

In the last months of 2024, Trump's newly formed Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) shared that Planned Parenthood, which received \$699 million in federal funding last year, would be on the chopping block in 2025. As the director of the country's main "watchdog" on all things Planned Parenthood, Ed brings a unique perspective to his new role. From PP's unethical funding to its illegal distribution and facilitation of abortion pills, Ed and STOPP have been the first on the scene to sound the alarm. It's this expertise that makes him the best man for the job!

STOPP and ALL plan to join DOGE in defunding Planned Parenthood. ALL will be making weekly suggestions targeting other government-funded nonprofits that work hand in hand

with Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry. Though we're sad to lose Ed as our STOPP director, we can't wait to see what he will do in this new role.

Please pray for ALL, Ed, and the STOPP team as we aid the new administration in knocking down the abortion Goliath—Planned Parenthood. Please also pray that God will direct us to the right person to lead the STOPP program.



## Don't Be Fooled

'Pro-Life Laws' Aren't Saving Lives

Fake news isn't limited to cable news channels. Pro-life organizations can be just as guilty of publishing misinformation.

Recent stories claim states that only allow the killing of preborn children vounger than eight weeks have seen fewer abortions. But don't let the headlines fool you. Mothers seeking abortions in restrictive states travel to neighboring states with fewer restrictions, thereby increasing abortion rates in those states. Women accessing abortion pills by mail are not counted in abortion data. Lastly, abortion reports do not include embryonic children killed by IVF and contraceptive drugs and devices.

Many influential pro-life organizations report the lower numbers of abortions in some states as victories. But the sad truth is that abortion rates are rising and will continue to do so until preborn children are recognized as persons equal under the law.

## From Our Supporters

Roger Schaller passed away in February 2024. He was a faithful supporter of American Life League. His son wrote us that American Life League "embodied his values and beliefs, [so] upon his death, he elected to make a charitable distribution" to help ALL's work. We pray for Roger's soul and remember his many years of faithful support of our efforts to save the babies.

Marianne wrote that at this point in our work, we need to encourage women to be modest in their dress. We agree with Marianne and believe that it is part of our pro-life mission to invite young women in particular to think about the Blessed Mother as they choose their outfits.

Walter told us that he and his wife Phyllis have 12 grandchildren, three of whom were adopted. He wrote, "I always say, the birth mothers of the three adopted children thankfully made the right decision." We agree, Walter, and we thank you for writing.

"To the weak, I made myself weak, to win the weak. I accommodated myself to people in all kinds of different situations, so that by all possible means I might bring some to salvation."

Saint Paul

## Pray for an End to All Abortion in 2025!

By Katie Brown, National Director, American Life League

The Marian Blue Wave continues to grow every year as the only rosary program in the world dedicated solely to ending all abortion and shutting down every Planned Parenthood location. With over 10,000 prayer partners around the world, more than half a million rosaries are being prayed for the Marian Blue Wave intentions every year.

I am pleased to share with you that in 2024, your prayers aided in shuttering 11 Planned Parenthood abortion facilities in the United States for GOOD! Not only that, but our prayer partners stormed heaven with prayers for the states with abortion ballot measures. For the first time ever, three of these measures were stopped dead in their tracks!

ALL's philosophy for expanding the culture of life is prayer, action, and education. We cannot underestimate just how important prayer is!

If you have not done so already, I invite you to join the Marian Blue Wave in 2025. Visit our website (MarianBlueWave.com) to pledge to pray one rosary a week for our intentions. The beauty of the Marian Blue Wave is that you can pray from anywhere at any time. Our intentions bind us together as we lift one beautiful prayer to our Blessed Mother, asking her to take our intentions to her Son.

God bless you and Our Lady of Life.

## Exposing Planned Parenthood CEO Salaries

By Katherine Van Dyke, Researcher, American Life League

Do you know that PP affiliate CEOs currently earn more than **98%** of the wage earners in America and that PPFA's president earned nearly **\$1 million** this last fiscal year? In its *2025 Planned Parenthood CEO Compensation Report*, STOPP investigates the exorbitant compensations of PP's affiliate CEOs. This report shows that the "nonprofit" continues to get rich off taxpayer dollars while committing more abortions every year. To read more findings from this report and why the government should defund PP, please visit **all.org/stopp**.

## Strengthening the Next Pro-Life Generation

By Susan Ciancio, Director, Culture of Life Studies Program

Throughout October, we hosted our Pro-Life Essay Contest and received over 300 amazing essays. One of the teachers whose classes participated sent us some awesome feedback. Sarah Duncan, LPC, EdD, of St. John Berchmans Catholic School in Louisiana, said: "Please accept my heartfelt thanks at how you worded this essay prompt. I believe that too often pro-life gets lost in anti-abortion, and we simply do not have conversations about the unbelievable miracle of which we ALL are a result." We thank her for her support. Read the winning essays at **prolifeessay.com**.

## In Memoriam



It is with a heavy heart that we pay tribute to one of American Life League's

dearest supporters, **Virginia McCaskey**, owner of the Chicago Bears and the daughter of late NFL legend George Halas. Virginia first connected with American Life League to fight the opening of an abortion facility across from her local hospital and was immediately impressed by Judie Brown's courage and conviction. This began her decades of tireless work to save babies and moms from abortion.

"For years, Virginia and her amazing husband Ed were friends of ours and of the babies," says Judie Brown. "She will be sorely missed, and we thank God for the many hearts that were changed thanks to her dauntless defense of truth."

"Virginia's unwavering faith and love for life are qualities we don't often find in this day and age," says Katie Brown.

"Mrs. Virginia McCaskey was one of the kindest, humblest, and truly grace-filled people I have ever known," says Hugh Brown. "May she rest in peace and pray for us from her place in heaven with our Lord."

Our deepest condolences go to the McCaskey family. Please join us in praying for the repose of her soul.



# Wisdom from Catholic Bishops

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



### **Archbishop Samuel Aquila**

(Denver, Colorado) wrote in a 2018 pastoral letter: "Jesus is the source of true love, the one who heals us of our sexual wounds and enables us to give ourselves more freely and fully in love to one another.

Living according to God's plan for your life and staying united in prayer are of fundamental importance for a successful marriage."



#### **Bishop William Medley**

(Owensboro, Kentucky) wrote in an article for *The Western Kentucky Catholic*: "The theme of hope is a timely one for all believers. We hear many people say, and perhaps we say ourselves,

that we experience divisions in our society, and even in our families, like never before. Yet, hope is a virtue and must be pursued."



Archbishop Emeritus Alfred Hughes (New Orleans, Louisiana) wrote: "I encourage you to ...visit Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Christ granted the request of His

disciples on the road to Emmaus, and under the forms of bread and

wine, His body, blood, soul and divinity really do 'remain with us.' Of course, the disciples were only echoing the similar request that Jesus had made in the Garden of Gethsemane to Peter, James and John when He asked them to remain with Him, to stay and pray with Him for one hour (Mt 26:37–40). Now ... we have the opportunity to do what the apostles failed to do."

### **Bishop Michael Angelo Saltarelli** (1932–2009)



(formerly of Wilmington, Delaware) wrote: "When we rekindle our Eucharistic amazement and devotion (such as Eucharistic Adoration) then our marriages in turn are rekindled. Vocations to the priesthood and religious

life are rekindled.... I see parents and religious educators really going the extra mile in their efforts to lead our young people to a lifechanging understanding and lived experience of the Eucharist."

## Cardinal McElroy? Oh My!

By Judie Brown, President, American Life League

Pope Francis recently promoted Cardinal Robert McElroy to lead the archdiocese of Washington, DC. McElroy's public call for the radical inclusion of those living an LGBTQ lifestyle into full communion with the Church is an empty invitation, as it fails to distinguish between the repentant and the blatantly sinful.

McElroy suggests that Catholic teaching on this matter should change so that LGBTQ individuals who live a homosexual lifestyle can receive the Eucharist.

While we find this appalling in light of the words of Canon 915, we fear that in the absence of unified teaching from the pulpit, McElroy is among those bearing the great weight on his own soul for the misdirection he has given to others.

The fact is that when truth is not taught with clarity, the faithful are not fed the good things their souls require to grow in virtue. That is basic Catholicism 101.

Another example of the confusion created by McElroy came when he wrote about abortion and Catholic politicians, intimating that abortion is an issue rather than a bloody act that causes the death of an innocent human being.

It is here on this pivotal point that we establish our stake in the moral ground, for if indeed any shepherd of the Catholic Church is willing to relegate such an act to a mere issue, the battle to end the killing of the innocent ends in deadly silence.

We know that the killing of the innocent happens by the millions. But this is not a

of life and death. Thus,
we express our horror
that there is even
one Catholic prelate
who is unapologetic
for dismissing this
tragedy as a mere

numbers game, it is a matter

Let us pray for McElroy, not to mention all those who cannot or will not see the truth about what abortion does to a fellow human being.

political topic.

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

### **QUESTION & ANSWER**

### Can children learn to trust God when their mother miscarries a baby?

Yes. In her touching article for *Celebrate Life Magazine* (clmagazine.org), Beth Meverden explains:

When we lost our baby, we had just told our extended family and announced the baby at church. At first, I was frustrated that we hadn't waited to announce the baby so I didn't have to talk about our loss with so many people. Then I realized the gift it was that we had celebrated the life of our preborn child with our loved ones. We got to continue talking about our little one, about trusting God, and about being grateful we had even the short amount of time we did with this baby.

Beth then suggests that we should celebrate the life of the miscarried baby, mourn with the baby's siblings, and discuss what might have been if the baby had lived.

In closing, she writes, "Our baby's earthly life is not the end. That truth gives us the hope that we need to keep trusting God. As parents, we have the honor of sharing that truth and hope with our littlest one's siblings. And as we share that hope, we are given the hope and comfort we need as well."



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