

The Original Globe Reporter



Our Blessed Mother Mary

“Do whatever He tells you.”



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“God knows we’re trying”



Our Lady of Sorrows



Time, Talent, and Treasure

By: Eugene A. Santoro

August 21, 2012

There are 60 minutes in an hour and 60 seconds in a minute. I hope I have not enlightened you. Is it my imagination that there are only 2 days in a week and four months in a year? Are they making batteries stronger; is the earth moving faster around the sun? Is the moon playing tricks on us?

Why does May run into September with such speed? What happened to June July and August?

Never mind the months, what happened to the 20th century; how long have we been in the 2000nds?

Do I sound like someone awakening from a serious coma? I sure some of you feel the same way.

It may have something to do with age. Time sure flies when you're busy. The way things are going in the world today, time is not moving fast enough; we need real productive hope and change

from our leaders, and I, for one, am getting restless, Instead of wasting time, our leaders need to spend time solving our problems. We have all heard of "Time, Talent and Treasure" our congress and past and present presidents look at these three words and see, "Time as money, Talent as money and Treasure as money. In fact, if you look them up you will see they do define money. Those three words can reflect hope and change but our leaders see only the monetary version.

As a Catholic, I am struggling with all the stories, reports, confessions, conspiracies, lies, tragedies, and crisis bearing on, emanating from, and directed toward my Church these days. I realize that there are many groups and individuals who would cherish the idea of a permanent devastation and annihilation of the Catholic Church and faith. Someone said, "The smoke of Satan is in the halls of the Church." I am not choking yet, but someone should open a window.

I think we, as Christians, do not vote as if Jesus were with us in the voting booth. In my opinion, I think most of us (Including moi) are "Cafeteria Christians." I have known that Catholics have approximately 70 million members of the Church. Did

you know that it takes 269 Electoral College votes **plus one** to win the election? About 50 million Catholic votes alone would elect a candidate to the office of President of the United States? Catholics alone could pick and choose any candidate they wanted elected. I am an independent voter; I vote for the individual who fits my agenda, Democrat, Republican, Libertarian, etc... As long as I think he/she leads a Christ centered life. We need compassionate, God fearing and God loving leaders. I believe this is the most important choice we will make in our lifetime. Vote for the man not the party. If your candidate wins, then you can party.

CNN Poll: Majority of Americans Want Abortions Prohibited

by Steven Ertelt | Washington, DC | LifeNews.com | 8/24/12

CNN has released the results of a new poll showing a majority of Americans want all or most abortions prohibited — a clear pro-life majority.

The survey asked: “Do you think abortion should be legal under any circumstances, legal under only certain circumstances, or illegal in all circumstances?” Some 62 percent want abortions illegal in all cases or legal only

in certain instances while just 35% want abortions legal for any reason.

Breaking down the question further, CNN asked, “Do you think abortion should be legal in most circumstances or only a few circumstances?”

Here, 52 percent took a pro-life view saying abortion should be illegal in all (15%) or most circumstances (37%) while just 44 percent took a pro-abortion view saying abortions should be legal in all (35%) or most (9%) circumstances.

Looking more closely at when abortions should be legal, CNN asked about if they should be allowed when the woman’s life is endangered. Americans agreed with that on a 88-9 percentage point margin. In cases of rape and incest, Americans supported legal abortions on a 83-14 percentage point margin. And when the woman’s health is supposedly in danger from the pregnancy, Americans were alright with abortion on a 83-12 percentage point margin.

That makes it clear Americans only support abortion in the most rare instances and clear oppose abortions in the 99 percent of cases when abortion is chosen for convenience, social or birth control reasons.

Obama Rejects Catholic Leader for Democratic Convention Prayer

by Steven Ertelt | Washington, DC | LifeNews.com | 8/24/12
Timothy Cardinal Dolan will deliver the benediction at the Republican Party convention but, in a slight to Catholics, pro-abortion President Barack Obama rejected Cardinal Dolan's similar offer of a prayer at the Democratic convention.

Dolan told Democrats he would be "grateful" to deliver a blessing in Charlotte, according to the New York Post, but Obama turned him down.

Dolan — considered the top Catholic official in the nation, as head of the Archdiocese of New York and president of the Conference of Catholic Bishops — tipped off Democrats a few weeks ago that he had agreed to deliver the prime-time benediction at the Republican convention in Tampa next week, Dolan's spokesman Joseph Zwilling told The Post.

As the Post reported:

"He wanted to make sure that they knew that this was not a partisan act on his part and that he would be just as happy and grateful to accept an invitation

from the Democrats as he would to have received one from the Republicans," said Zwilling.

"He has not been contacted by them" since, he added.

A senior Obama campaign official said yesterday that the Democrats would have a "high-ranking" Catholic at the convention, but indicated the arrangements weren't yet final.

"I can't announce it because the person hasn't got their plane ticket," said the official.

Obama campaign spokesman Adam Fetcher would say only, "The Catholic clergy will be an important part of a diverse community of interfaith leaders represented in Charlotte."

The symbolism of Cardinal Dolan praying at the Republican convention is important as Romney works to reach Catholic voters in swing states to defeat pro-abortion President Barack Obama.

"This is not a partisan appearance. This is simply to do what a priest should do, which is to pray," Joseph Zwilling, Dolan's spokesman, told The Post. "He's going to pray. He's

not going to give a convention speech.”

Still, Dolan’s appearance is important as the leader of the New York Archdiocese and the head of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, which is one of the leading critics of Obamacare and the pro-abortion mandate forcing religious groups to pay for abortion-causing drugs.

“I haven’t weighed in on the Al Smith controversy. Both sides make good arguments, but my hope is simply that we can do everything possible to maintain Catholic unity going into November and that, because Obama’s invitation to the dinner can’t be taken back at this point, we should make the best of it and learn lessons from it if we can,” he said. “That said, critics of Obama’s appearance at the Al Smith dinner should be happy to find out that Cardinal Dolan has consented to give the closing benediction at the GOP Convention in Tampa right after Mitt Romney gives his acceptance speech on the same stage.”

“In 2008 when Barack Obama won I predicted there would not be a good relationship between the White House and the U.S.

Bishops during the Obama administration, and that proved to be true,” he added. “I now predict that if Mitt Romney wins the White House in 2012 there will be a very healthy relationship between a Romney administration and the U.S. Bishops, led by a close working relationship between Cardinal Dolan and President Romney. That’s all I say. But I think that means a lot when compared to what we have now.”

A Romney ad this month featured the late Pope John Paul II and accused Obama of a “war on religion.”

“Who shares your values?” the ad asks. “President Obama used his health care plan to declare war on religion, forcing religious institutions to go against their faith.”

Pro-Life Democrats to Counter Democrats’ Pro-Abortion Convention

by Steven Ertelt | Washington, DC | LifeNews.com | 8/24/12

After having been thrown to the curb by the Democratic Party and its refusal to acknowledge them in their party platform, pro-life Democrats are planning to hold their own event at the convention in Charlotte.

Former Rep. Bart Stupak, a Michigan Democrat, will be featured at a Democrats for Life of America event on Tuesday, September 4 to, as the group tells LifeNews, “showcase pro-life Democratic leaders in the political, academic, and religious fields who have spent years standing up for pro-life values and continue to fight for life today.”

The event will be held at the Crowne Plaza Charlotte and features Stupak along with former Congresswoman Kathy Dahlkemper of Pennsylvania, Tom Berg of St. Thomas Law School and Steve Schneck, policy analyst at Catholic University of America. Stupak and Dahlkemper faced opposition from pro-life groups upset that they covered up abortion funding in Obamacare.

Kristen Day, executive director of Democrats for Life of America said the effort was made necessary because the 2012 Democratic platform totally shut-out pro-life viewpoints.

“The draft platform released [by the platform committee] is greatly weakened by its failure to recognize the party’s pro-life constituency,” Day said.

“If you remember back to 1992, when (then Pennsylvania) Gov. Bob Casey was prevented from speaking and that following convention in ’96, Tony Hall and a group of other pro-life Democrats led an effort to add some language to the Democratic platform that said we’re the Big Tent and we see there is a difference of opinions on abortion and we think we should include everybody in our Big Tent, and we see diversity as a source of strength,” Day told CNSNews.com Thursday.

“That language was in 2000, as well. And for some reason it was taken out in 2004. And it was not in the 2008 platform. So we thought that that language was really important to extend a hand out to the roughly one-third of Democrats who are pro-life.”

The Democratic Party has already turned back efforts by pro-life Democrats to moderate its pro-abortion position and add any language to its platform showing it welcomes Democrats who oppose abortion. As LifeNews has reported, the Democratic National Committee has officially rejected an effort by pro-life Democrats to get the party to include them in its platform that calls for keeping unlimited abortions legal and paid for at taxpayer expense.

The president of the nation's biggest abortion business will be a featured speaker at the Democratic convention that will be held in September to nominate pro-abortion President Barack Obama for another four-year term.

In 2008, the Democratic National Committee allowed Cecile Richards, the president of Planned Parenthood, the nation's largest abortion business which Obama has funded despite its coverup of child rape, to speak from the stage. Nancy Keenan, the head of NARAL, and one of the pro-abortion activists to endorse Obama early in the 2008 election, spoke as well.

Both will be back this time around and Sandra Fluke, the Georgetown student who has been a surrogate for Obama promoting the pro-abortion HHS mandate, will speak as well.

The speakers list released this morning by the Democratic National Committee includes U.S. Rep. Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin; Former assistant secretary, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Tammy Duckworth; Denise Juneau, State Superintendent of Public

Instruction, Montana; Caroline Kennedy; Lilly Ledbetter; actress Eva Longoria; U.S. Sen. Barbara Mikulski, Maryland.; California Attorney General Kamala D. Harris, and Massachusetts U.S. Senate candidate Elizabeth Warren. All of them are strong abortion proponents.

Democrats are also coming under fire from within its own ranks for not offering child care during the convention. On the other hand, the Republican Party platform is strongly pro-life. LifeNews Note: David French is an attorney with the American Center for Law and Justice.

Planned Parenthood Hosts “Sex, Politics and Cocktails” Convention Event

by Steven Ertelt | Washington, DC | LifeNews.com | 8/24/12

Planned Parenthood is setting up shop at the Democratic convention with an event it is calling “Sex, Politics and Cocktails.”

Thomas Peters of CatholicVote, which has endorsed Mitt Romney and Paul Ryan, noticed the event and says he finds it exploitive of women.

“Planned Parent is an odd duck.

On the one hand, it claims to be a stalwart defender of the dignity of women. On the other hand, this is what Planned Parenthood is billing to attendees of the Democratic National Convention as its “signature party” — with main speaker Cecile Richards,” he said. ““Sex, Politics and Cocktails.” My, doesn’t that just scream respect for women?”

Peters says one reason the event is anti-woman, to him, is that men are invited to an event linking sex and drinking.

“So the next time you hear Democrats accuse Republicans of waging a “war on women”, ask yourself: what does it say when a Democrat-sponsored convention invites men to come to a party linking “sex”, “politics” and “cocktails” where all the men can bet the women in attendance support untethering sex from babies, and who can’t even raise the excuse that contraception costs them (or the men) money?” Peters writes. “Oh and there are cocktails. Plenty of cocktails. Does that sound like a perfect recipe for encouraging respect for women?”

“One wonders if Planned

Parenthood will be handing out free condoms at this shindig. After all, contraception is one of their favorite freebie offerings at college campuses and their clinics. Maybe Planned Parenthood could have DNC-themed condoms offered at the end of the event as party favors. Seems in keeping with the general theme, right? And the fact that this party goes for almost five hours and has a “planned” ending time at 2AM surely ensures that everyone is going to be making free and respectful choices, surely?” Peters continued. “Oh, and all of this is basically paid for by you and me. Neat, huh?”

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Most people know that fetuses are human beings. To what other species would they belong? Still, the Canadian Medical Association just declared that babies aren't human until after birth, and philosopher and bioethicist Peter Singer recently claimed that being human doesn't give you the right to live. Each of these statements has helped to stir up both the abortion and personhood debates. However, new pregnancy trends could help bring humanity and rights back to the unborn.

Photoshopping Baby

This particular trend disturbs pro-choicers a great deal. Pregnant moms are photoshopping ultrasound images of their babies onto pictures of their round bellies. These pictures are fun and beautiful to some, but “morbid and disgusting” to others. Allison Benedikt from Slate had this to say about the trend:

[...] casually and publicly assigning human attributes to not-yet-human embryos—including an avocado-sized embryo in the family portrait—

does not seem like the best way to argue against measures that seek to treat that avocado like a member of our collective American family.

Still, celebrating your unborn child is fun for moms, who will continue to do so, most likely to the abiding annoyance of the pro-choice extremists ready to blame them if any state decides to declare personhood status to fetuses.

Fetus Parties

To participate in this trend, simply take that ultrasound photo and turn it into a party. Parents across the country are celebrating their unborn child with family and friends, but this isn't your standard baby shower. Parents show off their little one through 4D ultrasound images both in still shots and on DVD, with some parents even inviting sonographers to the party to perform live ultrasounds. What grandparent wouldn't love this? However, Professor Cathy Warwick, head of the Royal College of Midwives, believes that these parties are dangerous. She told the Daily Mail:

‘What happens if a woman is celebrating a normal-looking baby and then it is discovered further down the line that something is wrong?’ she said. ‘Does it make it harder for women to accept the problem?’

It's a bit like being given lots of presents at a wedding and then suddenly being jilted.' She added: 'If a woman is celebrating much more overtly than she might normally do at an early stage during the pregnancy and then, at a later stage, a serious problem emerges, a mother may need increased counselling after raising everyone's expectations at a foetus party.'

First of all, receiving a diagnosis for your child is not anywhere near the same as being stood up at the altar. Being left by your fiancé is humiliating and infuriating. Finding out your child has a medical problem is distressing and worrisome. Any mother facing a complication or tragic news late in the pregnancy is going to be traumatized, and everyone she knows would still know about it. However, after throwing such a party, her friends and family will also have a connection to the baby and may be able to, therefore, offer greater support and comfort to the mother. These parties allow for bonding between the mother and her support network, as well as the baby and that same network, offering emotional benefits for all.

Medical Journals Show

Increasing Support for Euthanasia

by Denise Hunnell, M.D. |
Washington, DC |
LifeNews.com | 8/24/12

Primum non nocere. First do no harm. This edict has been part of medical ethics since the time of the ancient Greek physician, Hippocrates, in the fifth century B.C. It is found in the Hippocratic Corpus, a collection of medical writing attributed to Hippocrates. The original Hippocratic oath includes:

I will apply dietetic measures for the benefit of the sick according to my ability and judgment; I will keep them from harm and injustice.

For millennia the physician has been charged with being an advocate for the patient. Part of the impetus for the original Hippocratic oath was to ensure that doctors would not be paid by an enemy to give poison instead of medicine. Patients should be able to come to their doctor when they are sick and weakened, and have no fear that their vulnerability will be exploited.

Unfortunately, the sacred trust of the doctor-patient relationship is being strained by a new ethical model. Physicians are being urged to place the "greater good" above the

needs of their individual patients. A disregard for the sanctity of human life as well as a utilitarian philosophy that judges the value of a patient to society is becoming more mainstream in the medical profession. This is evidenced by the increasing number of articles in respected medical journals that call for approval of assisted suicide and euthanasia, euphemistically called "assisted dying." The British Medical Journal (BMJ), a publication distributed to the members of the British Medical Association, devoted much of its June 14, 2012, issue to endorsing voluntary euthanasia and physician assisted suicide. Raymond Tallis, emeritus professor of geriatric medicine at the University of Manchester, argues in this issue that respect for patient desires and autonomy renders irrelevant any opinion on the matter by the Royal College of Physicians or the British Medical Association. Therefore, all opposition to euthanasia is merely inappropriate paternalism and should be dropped.

In this same issue, Tess McPherson relates the difficult last days of her mother, Ann McPherson, and uses this painful experience as a call for legalized physician assisted suicide and euthanasia. Rather than seeking better pain control, she argues that death is the best option for

those suffering at the end of their lives.

Finally, Fiona Goodlee, editor in chief of the BMJ, rounds out the arguments by declaring that legalization of assisted dying is not a medical decision, but rather a societal question. She argues that the role of the physician is compatible with providing euthanasia or assisted suicide and if society wants it, they should get it.

Amid these scholarly endorsements of euthanasia come the claims of British physician Patrick Pullicino that the National Health Service (NHS) is effectively killing 130,000 patients every year when doctors place these patients on the Liverpool Care Protocol (LCP) and deny them nutrition and hydration.

According to the Daily Mail: Professor Pullicino claimed that far too often elderly patients who could live longer are placed on the LCP and it had now become an 'assisted death pathway rather than a care pathway'.

He cited 'pressure on beds and difficulty with nursing confused or difficult-to-manage elderly patients' as factors.

Professor Pullicino revealed he had personally intervened to take a patient off the LCP who went on to be successfully treated.