

The Original Globe Reporter

Our Blessed Mother Mary

“Do whatever He tells you.”



Volume 5 Number 3 A Respect-Life Newsletter March 2012

“God knows we’re trying”



Saint Katharine Drexel March 3

On Ash Wednesday, February 22, USCCB President Timothy Cardinal Dolan has issued a new letter to his fellow Catholic bishops that is one of the strongest condemnations yet of the revised Obama mandate.

Because there is no certainty that this letter will echoed in our parishes I ask each and every one of you to forward it to all your e-mail contacts.

The full text of the letter appears below:
Dear Brother Bishops,
Since we last wrote to you concerning the critical efforts we are undertaking together to protect religious freedom in our beloved country, many of you have requested that we write once more to update you on the situation and to again request the assistance of all the faithful in this important work. We are happy to do so now.

First, we wish to express our heartfelt appreciation to you, and to all our sisters and brothers in Christ, for the remarkable witness of our unity in faith and strength of conviction during this past month. We have made our voices heard, and we will not cease from doing so until religious freedom is restored.

As we know, on January 20, the Department of Health and Human Services announced a decision to issue final regulations that would force practically all employers, including many religious institutions, to pay for abortion inducing drugs, sterilizations, and contraception. The regulations would provide no protections for our great institutions—such as Catholic charities, hospitals, and universities—or for the individual faithful in the marketplace. The regulations struck at the heart of our fundamental right to religious liberty, which affects our ability to serve those outside our faith community.

Since January 20, the reaction was immediate and sustained. We came together, joined by people of every creed and political persuasion, to make one thing resoundingly clear: we stand united against any attempt to deny or weaken the right to religious liberty upon which our country was founded.

On Friday, February 10, the Administration issued the final rules. By their very terms, the rules were reaffirmed “without change.” The mandate to provide the illicit services remains. The exceedingly narrow exemption for

churches remains. Despite the outcry, all the threats to religious liberty posed by the initial rules remain.

Religious freedom is a fundamental right of all. This right does not depend on any government's decision to grant it: it is God-given, and just societies recognize and respect its free exercise. The free exercise of religion extends well beyond the freedom of worship. It also forbids government from forcing people or groups to violate their most deeply held religious convictions, and from interfering in the internal affairs of religious organizations.

Recent actions by the Administration have attempted to reduce this free exercise to a "privilege" arbitrarily granted by the government as a mere exemption from an all-encompassing, extreme form of secularism. The exemption is too narrowly defined, because it does not exempt most non-profit religious employers, the religiously affiliated insurer, the self-insured employer, the for-profit religious employer, or other private businesses owned and operated by people who rightly object to paying for abortion inducing drugs,

sterilization, and contraception. And because it is instituted only by executive whim, even this unduly narrow exemption can be taken away easily.

In the United States, religious liberty does not depend on the benevolence of who is regulating us. It is our "first freedom" and respect for it must be broad and inclusive—not narrow and exclusive. Catholics and other people of faith and good will are not second class citizens. And it is not for the government to decide which of our ministries is "religious enough" to warrant religious freedom protection.

This is not just about contraception, abortion-causing drugs, and sterilization—although all should recognize the injustices involved in making them part of a universal mandated health care program. It is not about Republicans or Democrats, conservatives or liberals. It is about people of faith. This is first and foremost a matter of religious liberty for all. If the government can, for example, tell Catholics that they cannot be in the insurance business today without violating their religious convictions, where does it end? This violates the constitutional limits on our

government, and the basic rights upon which our country was founded.

Much remains to be done. We cannot rest when faced with so grave a threat to the religious liberty for which our parents and grandparents fought. In this moment in history we must work diligently to preserve religious liberty and to remove all threats to the practice of our faith in the public square. This is our heritage as Americans. President Obama should rescind the mandate, or at the very least, provide full and effective measures to protect religious liberty and conscience.

Above all, dear brothers, we rely on the help of the Lord in this important struggle. We all need to act now by contacting our legislators in support of the Respect for Rights of Conscience Act, which can be done through our action alert on www.usccb.org/conscience.

We invite you to share the contents of this letter with the faithful of your diocese in whatever form, or by whatever means, you consider most suitable. Let us continue to pray for a quick and complete resolution to this and all threats to religious

liberty and the exercise of our faith in our great country.

Timothy Cardinal Dolan
Archbishop of New York
President, United States
Conference of Catholic
Bishops

Most Reverend William E.
Lori

Bishop of Bridgeport
Chairman, Ad Hoc
Committee for Religious
Liberty

Washington Bill Forcing Abortion Coverage Moves Ahead

The bill the Washington state House approved that would require that any insurance policy sold to state residents for maternity coverage also require policyholders to pay for coverage of abortions has been approved by a state Senate committee. The measure forces all individuals to purchase and all businesses sell abortion insurance coverage on a maternity plan. The Engrossed Substitute House Bill 2330 passed from the House floor 52-46 and then passed through several Senate hurdles to end up in the Ways and Means committee.



Monday evening, the Senate Ways and Means Committee passed ESHB 2330 to the Senate Rules Committee □ without recommendation. □ It passed along party lines with the 13 Democrats supporting it and 8 Republicans voting no.

House Cmte Votes to Repeal IPAB, Obama's

□ Death Panels □

Lawmakers on a House health subcommittee began the process of reversing one of the more contentious parts of Obamacare today as they approved bipartisan legislation to repeal the cost control board that has been derisively called death panels □ by detractors.

The Energy and Commerce Health subcommittee voted 17-5, according to a report in The Hill, with pro-abortion lawmakers Rep. Frank Pallone of New Jersey and Rep. Edolphus Towns joining with Republicans to vote to end the Independent Payment Advisory Board. Votes in full committee and on the House floor to repeal the board from Obamacare are expected by the end of March.

Rep. Joe Pitts, a pro-life Pennsylvania Republican, opened the subcommittee hearing meeting, the Hill report indicated, by arguing that the IPAB would make it more difficult to administer Medicare policy, saying, □ Supporters of IPAB tell us there is nothing wrong with having 15 unelected bureaucrats making

binding decisions about Medicare policy.

Obama Killing Women's Health Program to Fund Planned Parenthood

The Obama Administration is showing its loyalties. And it is not to women. It is to Planned Parenthood.

The Texas Legislature and Governor Rick Perry have authorized the Texas Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to continue the Medicaid Women's Health Program (WHP). The program, which the HHSC points out provides preventative health services to more than 100,000 low-income women annually, is set to expire in March 2012. Those services include contraceptives, STD testing, and screening for hypertension, diabetes, and breast and cervical cancers,

The HHSC has applied to the Obama Administration for an

extension of the program through 2013, with the condition that no funding go to organizations that perform or promote elective abortions or are affiliated with such organizations. Of the more than 1,000 certified WHP providers across the state, this rule excludes fewer than 100 Planned Parenthood providers. The State has an interest in not promoting abortion when it promotes birth control. the fact that Planned Parenthood performs many thousands of elective abortions every year in its 14 abortion facilities in Texas was not lost on the Legislature.

Obama Mandate Panel Never Considered Conscience Clause

During a Judiciary Committee hearing Tuesday night, Representative Sandy Adams questioned Dr. Linda Rosenstock, chair of the Preventive Services for Women Committee of the Institute of Medicine (IOM), about the Obama administration's Health and Human Services (HHS) controversial mandate.

At the request of the HHS Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation, the IOM assembled a committee to provide information and to recommend preventative services for women to be included in the

Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act of 2010 a committee on which Dr. Rosenstock served.

Rosenstock admitted that the IOM panel that put together the mandate that targets religious liberties admitted that it never considered adding a conscience clause.

During the hearing, Dr. Rosenstock admitted to Adams that meetings which were instrumental in shaping the Obama administration's unconstitutional HHS mandate were held behind closed doors and that transcripts from the meeting have not been made public, Adam said.

Additionally, Dr. Rosenstock confessed that the committee did not consider any conscience clause or religious exemptions during its meetings.

As More Planned Parenthood Centers Close, Abortions Decline

by Jennie Stone | Washington, DC | LifeNews.com | 2/29/12 11:46 AM

Karen Hildebrand, the CEO of Planned Parenthood of West Texas, [claimed](#) that “we are gonna see an increase in abortion rates” upon the closing of a Planned Parenthood facility in Odessa,

Texas.

This is one of the top pro-Planned Parenthood mantras: claiming that without them, abortion rates are going to jump up. However, statistics and Planned Parenthood's own numbers throughout the years prove otherwise.

In 1995, there were 938 operating Planned Parenthood clinics in the country.

That [number is down](#) to 785.

Another number down?

Annual [number of abortions](#) in America.

The number of annual abortions performed in America slowly but surely declined since 1990, when it peaked at 1.6 million abortions yearly. That number is down to 1.2 million. Planned Parenthood's abortion rate, on the other hand, [has increased annually](#) since 1996, and only declined [for the first time](#) between 2009 and 2010, going down from 331,796 to 329,445.

A declining number of Planned Parenthood facilities has correlated with a declining number of annual abortions in

America. The only time those abortion numbers have increased is within the walls of their own clinics.

LifeNews.com Note: Jennie Stone writes for the [Live Action blog](#) and this column is reprinted with permission.

911 Calls Show Botched Abortions Severely Injured Women

by Steven Ertelt | Birmingham, AL | LifeNews.com | 2/29/12 2:06 PM

New evidence obtained through an open records request indicates an abortion clinic in Birmingham, Alabama downplayed the seriousness of the conditions of two women who suffered from botched abortions and required emergency vehicles to transport them to the hospital.

As LifeNews reported, [two women were transported](#) from a Alabama abortion clinic in January after paramedics had to hand-lift a partially clad woman from a narrow doorway and down several steps to an

awaiting gurney. A second woman was wheeled to her gurney in a wheelchair down a trash-strewn alley only to discover that the rear entrance of the clinic could not accommodate them.

Two weeks later, abortion practitioner Ivan life advocates, according to Fr. Terry Gensemer, director of CEC for Life, who met with a representative of Diamond's employer in Atlanta, Georgia. His leaving makes it so there is only one part-time abortion practitioner at the Birmingham abortion facility.

Now, Gensemer's organization obtained Diamond stopped doing abortions in Birmingham under pressure from pro-copies of two 911 recordings and the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) transcripts of emergency calls that were placed from New Women All Women Health Center

abortion business on January 21. CEC for Life then shared the documents with Operation Rescue, which produced a video featuring the 911 recordings and photographs taken at the scene.

The recordings were heavily redacted and missing the last half of their content, but were enough to tell that the two each women suffered from an overdose of the drug Vasopressin, which is used to treat low blood pressure that results from heavy blood loss.

"There is more going on here than just a drug overdose. It is apparent that both of these women suffered blood loss, resulting in low blood pressure that was improperly treated with an overdose of Vasopressin," said Troy Newman, President of Operation Rescue and Pro-Life Nation. "With this new information, complaints will certainly be filed. We will be

asking authorities for an emergency closure of this abortion business and suspension of the abortionist's medical license."

Newman said the abortion practitioner on duty at the time of the botched abortions was Bruce Elliot Norman. He said the medical condition of the women is still unknown.

He told LifeNews the CAD transcripts show that paramedics were first summoned to New Woman All Women at 9:24 AM and were told to go to the back alley entrance, but were turned away without seeing any patient. Forty-eight minutes later, clinic owner Diane Derzis, known by state legislators as the "abortion queen" for her pro-abortion lobbying efforts, called 911 for the second time.

Newman said Derzis told the dispatcher that two women had suffered an overdose of

Vasopressin and needed to be taken to the UAB hospital for "observation." Emergency units were dispatched at "Priority 3" but that designation changed to "Priority 1" upon arrival, reflecting a more serious situation than first thought. Paramedics had to negotiate down a trash, strewn alley to an entrance that could not accommodate a gurney. The two women had to be hand-lifted out of the clinic and down a set of stairs past a broken safety rail in order to reach the gurneys next to an open dumpster

Biden: We Screwed Up Conscience Issues in the Mandate

Vice President Joe Biden spoke to students at Iowa State University yesterday afternoon and admitted that the Obama Administration screwed up on protecting rights of conscience when the Obama administration issued its controversial mandate.

I was the one that was tasked to meet with the National Conference of Bishops, and others and Cardinal Dolan, to talk about this, Biden said in videotaped remarks that are making their way across the Internet today. The fact of the matter is, the ultimate resolution

to this problem is where it should have been in the first place.

40 Days for Life Campaign Bringing Together All Christians

**by Shawn Carney |
Washington, DC |
LifeNews.com | 3/2/12
11:34 AM**

David Bereit, the 40 Days for Life national director, and I are in Iowa today — celebrating the closure of TWO Planned Parenthood abortion centers that have been the sites of 40 Days for Life campaigns. One of the reasons 40 Days for Life has such an impact in communities is because of strong leadership from local pastors.

I've seen a lot of courage this spring at kickoff events I've spoken at, where pastors of Baptist, Catholic, Presbyterian and many other Christian churches shared the Word of God and challenged their congregations to be part of 40 Days for Life.

Pastors don't hear it enough, but we appreciate YOU! Thanks for all you do on behalf of God's children.

HARLINGEN, TEXAS

Nancy says “folks are taking

notice” of the 40 Days for Life campaigns in the Rio Grande Valley — “and the campaign is still young.”

This is the second 40 Days for Life in which Harlingen is participating. “Harlingen support is booming compared to last time as we now have Brownsville, Port Isabel and South Padre Island folks joining us.”

A particular boost came when Bishop Daniel Flores of the local Catholic diocese went to pray at the vigil. A number of people joined him — and so did the media.

A KGBT news crew interviewed both Bishop Flores ... AND the abortion center's owner. It was quite a contrast, and brought quite a bit of attention to 40 Days for Life.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY, CALIFORNIA



At a recent vigil, there were more than 100 people on the sidewalks outside the abortion center. “By far, our best ever,” said Patti, the local 40 Days for

Life coordinator. “God really blessed us with many new people coming out for the first time,” she said.

“We had great support from passers-by, including a young girl and her mother who brought freshly-made empanadas,” Patti said. “Then a young man who lives across the street and really appreciates what we’re doing brought us five dozen fresh-baked bagels.”

EUGENE, OREGON

You don’t always get to see God’s hand in action. But sometimes, He permits a glimpse.

A man walked up to Lynda in at the 40 Days for Life vigil in Eugene and asked her if she wanted to meet one of the women the volunteers had prayed for.

“I dropped everything and followed him to meet his daughter and her two beautiful kids,” she said. “Such beautiful miracles — another testimony of answered prayer!”

Lynda said she just wanted to pass this blessing along “for encouragement to others that prayers are being heard and answered!”

LifeNews.com Note: Shawn Carney is the campaign director for the 40 Days for Life pro-life

prayer campaign against abortion. He is the director of the Coalition for Life



Who can you Trust?

Eugene A. Santoro
March 04, 2012

Why do Catholics keep shooting themselves in the foot? ARE Catholics pro-life or not?

Are we with God and His teachings?

Did Jesus separate the Church from the State?

'Pay Caesar what belongs to Caesar -- and God what belongs to God.'

Mark 12:13-17

Why did Catholic congressmen and women mostly democrats, and a few republicans, vote against the Blunt Amendment which would have given Christians the freedom to opt out of the contraceptive part of Obama’s Health Care Plan. The amendment would have allowed all religious people

to adhere to their beliefs. It was a vote for religious freedom. Why did these “so called” Catholics vote against the teachings of Jesus Christ. Why are there so many “Catholics” in favor of the culture of death? I wonder, when they have to face Jesus, how will they explain their way out of their decisions? The witnesses against them will be all the people who died because of their thoughtless votes. “The devil made me do it.” Will not help.

There are approximately 75,000,000. Catholics in the U.S.A. If we all voted the way Jesus would, we Christians would be in control of our government. What a waste of souls. Oh, one more thing, with regards to Jesus and the face of Caesar on the coin, He is saying, if you owe someone, “pay your bills.”

Happy
St Patrick's Day!



It's the Soldier

It's the Soldier, not the reporter,
Who has given us the freedom of the press.

It's the Soldier, not the poet,
Who has given us the freedom of speech.

It's the Soldier, not the politicians,
That ensures our right to Life, Liberty
and the Pursuit of Happiness..

It's the Soldier who salutes the flag,
Who serves beneath the flag,
And whose coffin is draped by the flag.

