



October 2020 Respect Life Month



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Please Vote. It's Your Right and Responsibility.

By: Tom Stevens, President and CEO, Pro-Life Union

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness." (Declaration of Independence) Politics can be ugly, government is complicated, and there can be a temptation to throw up our hands and say, "Forget about it; I don't know who or what to believe — I'm going to ignore the process and stay home on election day. However, each of us has a duty to develop an informed conscience and do our best to preserve and advance this great, though not perfect, society.

The Pro-Life Union of Greater Philadelphia does not get involved in campaigns, endorse candidates or raise money for political endeavors, but we do weigh in on the life issues.* We encourage you to inform yourself and exercise your right to vote.

The United States Catholic Conference of Bishops in Nov. 2019 re-affirmed in their *Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship* document that: "The threat of abortion remains our preeminent priority because it directly attacks life itself, because it takes place within the sanctuary of the family, and because of the number of lives destroyed." Preeminent priority means foremost in importance. The Bishops say we cannot dismiss or ignore other serious threats to human life, but abortion is the top priority.

"Truly you have formed my inmost being; you knit me in my mother's womb. I give you thanks that I am fearfully, wonderfully made; wonderful are your works. My soul also you knew full well; nor was my frame unknown to you when I was made in secret, when I was fashioned..." (Psalm 139:13-15). Each of us was a distinct, unique human during our entire time in our mother's

womb; a completely separate person from our mom, though living and developing within her. Even as we rapidly grew, the pattern for our whole self (our DNA) had been there since conception. Out of the 7 billion people in the world, there never has been, or will be, another you. You were, and are, so precious. You are fearfully, wonderfully made. When we are being formed in the womb, we have the unalienable Right to life. Yet, more than 16,000 innocent preborn humans are murdered legally at abortion centers in Greater Philadelphia each year.

Do elected officials at the federal, state and local levels make a difference? Yes! Abortion contaminates many other important issues by being inserted into legislation regarding immigration, care for the poor, health care reform and so many other areas. And U.S. decisions affect the nations beyond our borders. From the U.S. Senate and the President to local congressman and school boards, elected officials can have significant impact for justice or injustice. Locally, for instance, the PA Abortion Control Act makes a huge difference in offering the innocent unborn a chance while a mom (or couple) wait a day before they have an abortion, and are required to receive options information during a counseling appointment. This was enacted years ago by elected officials who fought for it. Who will fight in the future?

Please engage, form your conscience and VOTE.

**The Pro Life Union advocates for the sanctity of life. We are an issue based organization and do not endorse candidates or particular parties. The Pro Life Union does not create, or publish a Voter Guide. We encourage all those who support the sanctity of life to register to vote and to inform themselves about a candidate's position on life. Please visit the following websites for further information. Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, Pennsylvania Family Institute, and Pa Pro Life Federation.*

"BEFORE I FORMED YOU IN
THE WOMB I KNEW YOU,
BEFORE YOU WERE BORN
I SET YOU APART..."
- JEREMIAH 1:5

A MAJORITY OF STATES, FROM THE MOST CONSERVATIVE TO THE MOST LIBERAL,
ALLOW ABORTION UP TO 22 - 24 WEEKS GESTATION. SO, WHAT IS GOING ON IN
THOSE FIRST FEW WEEKS? SHOULD IT BE LEGAL TO TAKE THIS HUMAN'S LIFE?



6 - 7 Week

Heart is beating 160 bpm, blood pumping through the baby's body. Intestines, brain, muscles, and bones are developing. Nose, mouth, ears, hands, feet arms and legs are forming.



8 Week

Neural pathways are beginning to form in the brain. The baby is quite active.



9 - 10 Week

Organs, muscles, and nerves are all present and beginning to function. Teeth are forming, eyes have formed, and earlobes, mouth, and nose continue to develop. At 10 weeks the most vital parts are complete.



16 Week

The baby can move every joint and limb and can sense light. Taste buds, toe nails, and lungs are developing. Sex organs are distinguishable and can be seen on ultrasound.



18 - 20 Week

The baby's frequent movements can be felt by the mother and they even start practicing swallowing. This is considered the halfway mark of pregnancy.

Source: Live Action



**For additional
prolife voting
information, here
are a few resources:**

1. <https://www.paprolife.org>
2. <https://pafamily.org>
3. <https://www.pacatholic.org>



Photo below:

40 Days For Life training event hosted by
SS. Peter & Paul Cathedral on September 17, 2020.



Pro-Life citizens are on the move!
**Follow us on our social media
or sign up for our e-mail
list to never miss one of
these events in the future!**

   prolifeunion.org

What would actually happen if Roe v. Wade is overturned?

By Cassy Fiano-Chesser | September 23, 2020 | Live Action

Abortion before and after Roe

Before Roe v. Wade was decided in 1973, there was no federal right to abortion, but in the 1960s, individual states began to legalize it. Abortion advocates have repeatedly claimed that in the decades before Roe, thousands of women were dying each year from illegal abortions, but this is false. As the Washington Post explained, most illegal abortions were actually committed secretly by physicians whose customers typically entered their facilities through the back entrance (hence the term “back alley abortions”). Citing former Planned Parenthood medical director Mary Steichen Calderone as well as researcher Christopher Tietze, the Washington Post pointed out that the number of deaths from abortion had been declining for decades; by 1951, there were 15 women whose deaths were attributed to abortion.

By the time Roe was being considered, nearly 20 states had legalized abortion. Roe made abortion into a “right” across the country under the “right to privacy” in the Fourteenth Amendment, striking down all of the states’ existing laws on abortion and making it so that a woman could have an abortion up through the point of viability without government restriction. Roe’s partner decision, Doe v. Bolton, made it so a woman can have an abortion for “health” reasons, which leaves room for an extremely broad interpretation. Doe’s text notes that an abortion may be done after viability, stating “... medical judgment may be exercised in the light of all factors – physical, emotional, psychological, familial, and the

woman’s age – relevant to the wellbeing of the patient. All these factors may relate to health....”

What happens after Roe?

If Roe v. Wade is one day overturned, abortion will not become illegal throughout the entire United States. Each state in the union would revert back to its own individual laws regarding abortion, which is why numerous states have passed “trigger laws” ensuring abortion will remain legal there if Roe is overturned. If an individual state has laws prohibiting abortion, then it will be illegal in that state post-Roe, whereas a different state could have laws making abortion legal, without any regulations or restrictions whatsoever.

President Trump has already promised to fill Ginsburg’s vacant seat on the Supreme Court before the election, which is what has spawned panic among abortion activists. The Cut, for example, interviewed pro-abortion writer Robin Marty about the “terror of a post-Roe America.” Former presidential candidate Cory Booker described the election in November as “life and death.” Others are claiming that women will die regularly from dangerous illegal abortions without Roe, even though that did not happen before Roe and is unlikely to happen after.

For the pro-life movement, overturning Roe v. Wade would be a monumental victory. But it would hardly be the end of the work that needs to be done to ensure that abortion is not just illegal, but unthinkable — so that no woman ever feels that she has no other choice or that she needs an abortion, ever again.



Photo to the left and above:
40 Days For Life rally and candlelight vigil in front of Planned Parenthood on 12th and Locust Philadelphia on September 23, 2020.



Photo above:
Respect Life Month Archdiocesan opening celebration at SS. Peter & Paul Cathedral on September 27, 2020.

Upcoming Events

WE ARE EXCITED TO HAVE YOU JOIN US FOR THE 5 YEAR CELEBRATION OF SAVE A LIFE INTERNATIONAL!

We invite you to join us in 1 of the 2 ways:

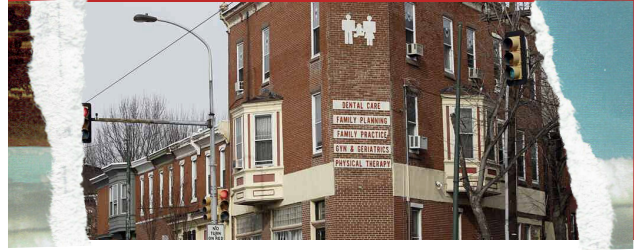
- 1.** You can watch the Celebration event live streamed on YouTube on **Saturday, October 10th starting at 7pm.** In order to receive the link, please register on our website or click the link below with the "Online" option.
- 2.** You can attend Save a Life International celebration Picnic at Regeneration Church, 920 Trenton Rd. Fairless Hill, PA 19030 **On Sunday, October 11th, at 4pm** Come enjoy a Ukrainian meal and fellowship with other Save a Life supporters and guests.

You're Invited



Savealifeintl.org
Or call: 215-760-1918

THE TRUE STORY OF KERMIT GOSNELL



OCTOBER 25TH AT 2PM

Presentation by Detective Jim Wood

Where: Our Lady of Guadalupe Church 5194 Cold Spring Creamery Road Doylestown, Pa. 18902 & live stream from the parish website

Come listen to Detective Jim Wood give a presentation about his experience during the investigation and trial of Kermit Gosnell, the world's most prolific serial killer of late-term unborn babies.

OCTOBER 31, 2020

JOIN US FOR THE 'RIGHT TO BIRTH' RALLY & PRAYER VIGIL AT 8AM

Catholic Mass at the Cathedral Chapel, 17th & Race followed by a march down to Planned Parenthood on 12th & Locust



40 DAYS FOR LIFE

Help save lives by praying for an end to abortion in your community

September 23 - November 1

Visit 40daysforlife.com to find a campaign in your area or call Monique Ruberu 469-231-9084 and Patrick Stanton 267-718-4851 to get involved in the Philadelphia area!

STAND UP FOR LIFE

LIVE STREAM 2020



Special Guest Speaker
Matt Walsh

SAVE THE DATE

**SUNDAY,
NOVEMBER
22ND**

7 PM - 7:45 PM

Visit prolifeunion.org or text "prolife" to 919-99 to register today!



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