

The Rockland County Catholic Coalition

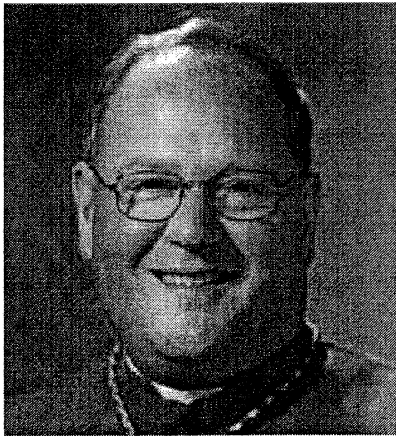
P. O. Box 264, Garnerville, NY 10923

Spring 2009

The Gates of Hell Will Not Prevail

Archbishop Dolan

Welcome Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan as the new shepherd of the New York Archdiocese. Thank you for making the issue of abortion and the right to life for all from conception to natural death your #1 priority, and for speaking freely to all the media in this regard. We need your support.



Archbishop Timothy M. Dolan

Mother Teresa

A conversation that took place as Mother Teresa and a reporter were walking together and discussing important issues concerning life:

Reporter: Mother, do you think it is possible for some common ground to be found between the Pro-Life people and the Pro-Abortion people?

Mother Teresa abruptly stopped, took hold of the reporter's arm, looked at her with her famous piercing eyes and said, "Someday you will die and you will stand all alone in front of Jesus and He will ask you what you did to protect His little ones. Will you say that you looked for common ground and babies died?"

*We dedicate this newsletter to our chaplain, **MONSIGNOR JOHN HARRINGTON**, who has been steadfast in guiding all of us in the Rockland County Catholic Coalition and to the **KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS** for their continuing generosity and support.*

A Memo to the President

President Obama was just sworn in as President when a pro-abortion advocacy group submitted a fifty-five page memorandum to the Obama transition team explaining in detail policy changes they recommend. The memo contained policies the group said should be taken within the first 100 days of the new administration. One plan: restoration of federal funding to organizations that promote abortion overseas (this was done within four days of Obama's inauguration.)

Within 100 days the group wants to see elimination of the Hyde amendment, which prohibits funding of Medicaid abortions. The memo also details policy goals they want realized in the next four years, including the Freedom of Choice Act. FOCA prohibits any level of government from enforcing any policy that would limit access to abortion! This would force Catholic hospitals to perform abortions or close. Doctors and nurses would not be able to opt out based on conscience. This is in the process of being enacted right now.

Under FOCA there would be no health regulations in regards to abortions. Any health care provider would be allowed to perform abortions. Taxpayers would fund abortions. Time limits for killing unborn babies would

be done away with. Parents would lose their rights to be informed of a daughter's intent to have an abortion and parental approval would not be required. Barack Obama promised that, "...the first thing I'd do as President is sign FOCA." The Freedom of Choice Act would supercede Partial Birth Abortion as the worst and final free-for-all against life, no restrictions, no time limits.

Five senators, who claim to be Catholic, are among those sponsoring this legislation in the Senate:

John Kerry (D-MA), Barbara Mikulski (D-MD), Bob Menendez (D-NJ), Patty Murray (D-WA), and Maria Cantwell (D-WA). Please contact them and remind them that you can't be Catholic and pro-abortion. Also, contact your legislators and let them know your feelings.

Keep in mind that Congress may try to attach FOCA to other legislation by writing it at or near the end of the bill, where they believe it will not be noticed.

Have You Heard?

A couple of Post Offices in Texas have been forced to take down small posters that say "In God We Trust." They say the law is being violated. Hey, that's our country's motto! 86% of Americans believe in God. Can it be that WE need to take action and tell the 14% to quiet down? A radio station has suggested putting "In God We Trust" on the back of all our mail! Remember, if we sit back and do nothing, we let bad things happen.

Do it now — IN GOD WE TRUST!

Catholics for Obama

54% of Catholics voted for Obama — shocking, but just as shocking is the lack of leadership from our Catholic Bishops! The U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops has given more than \$7.3 million to Acorn over the past decade for about 320 projects. In June, the Catholic Church froze a \$1.2 million grant for 38 Acorn chapters after the group was accused of voter fraud in 15 states.

An example of Acorn at work: the group was paid \$406,730 by the United Federation of Teachers to help the union organize 28,000 child care providers. Earlier this month Acorn also helped organize protests against the phase out of P.S. 194 in Harlem to make way for a charter school! The Education Dept. eventually caved and the public school will not be closed (even though charter schools have been quite successful in improving education in minority communities.)

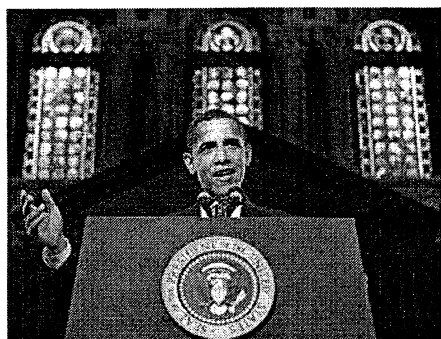
According to Ralph McCloud, the new executive director for CCHD (Catholic Campaign for Human Development), all applications go through rigorous screening and each organization is asked to commit to being non-partisan. He has got to be kidding! With a click of the computer, one can quickly discover Acorn's radical agenda dating back to 1995. We Catholics are sadly in need of better leadership from our Bishops!

Pastoral Silence

The thought of another pro-abortion government in power is discouraging. It is even more discouraging when one sees that Catholics had a very significant effect in the elevation of the pro-abortionist candidates, 54% of Catholics having voted for the infanticide supporters. Obviously, the rank and file of the pro-life believers have a lot of work to do to change the voting attitudes of those Catholics who have compromised the tenets of

the Church in the public square.

There is evidence that some bishops are beginning to confront Catholic politicians who consistently vote in favor of legislation to support abortion. Whether those bishops will truly persist remains to be seen. But until clerics continue to counter pro-choice claims made by high-profile Catholics, faithful Catholics will remain bewildered by pastoral silence.



President Obama at Georgetown University in front of religious symbols the White House requested covered.

Disgraceful

President Obama requested all religious symbols be covered when he spoke at Georgetown University. They complied. Notre Dame is having President Obama as a commencement speaker and is giving him an honorary degree. Two student groups at Boston College invited William Ayers to speak (he is a former Weather Underground organization member.) One group is called the Democrats of Boston College. Thankfully, however, college administrators rescinded the last invitation. But as a compromise, Ayers will now speak via satellite from Chicago in Devlin Hall on campus. Do we still call these schools Catholic?

While our newsletter is basically on life issues, it would be well to be aware of major consequences in regard to college. Traditional values of faith, family and patriotism are no more. After 1968, anti-war demonstrators who parted from the above went to colleges, became professors, and now

have a stranglehold on the minds of a generation of students, molding them toward their on political views on civil rights, homosexuality, global warming, and abortion. These views include socialism, materialism, and dictatorship. Does the reader begin to get the picture now? Reading the Mindzenty Report newsletter informs us that only 15% of American colleges are conservative and over 70% are liberal.

Some names we the reader should be aware of are Bill Ayers, his wife Bernadine Dohrn, from Northwestern University, and Ward Churchill, a former Colorado professor.

Parents must seek colleges with Catholic values such as Thomas More in New Hampshire, Ave Maria in Florida, Christendom in Virginia, and Franciscan University in Ohio. At each site local bishops must rule on its Catholicity. We all see the results that the education today is driving students to Godlessness, destroying our great country, and is not a win situation. Would Jesus invite Pontius Pilate to instruct his disciples?

Some Nominees to Watch

Congress has approved these nominees for Federal positions:

Harold Koh: "Judges should interpret the Constitution according to other nations. The U.S. constitutes an axis of disobedience." These are the views of the man who is to be the top lawyer of the government, Harold Koh. President Obama has nominated him as State Dept. legal advisor. He would cover a wide range of international agreements from trade to arms control in such places as the United Nations and the International Court of Justice. In this job we need a strong defender of *America's sovereignty*, not this man.

Dawn Johnson: A radical pro-abortionist whose nomination is out

† The Ten Commandments are not optional! †

of the Senate Judiciary and awaits a floor vote. Susan B. Anthony list members have taken up the mantle against her by sending thousands of letters to their senators. This list is nationwide and there are members in 50 states. Ms. Johnson refers to mothers as losers and fetal containers. Wonder who conceived her? Time for everyone to speak up. Use the phone numbers listed on the last page.

Catholics Called to Action

Recently, two Connecticut State Senators attempted to fast-track a bill (Bill 1098), "An Act Modifying Corporate Law Relating to Certain Religious Corporations", that would give the state the power to intrude into the internal affairs of the Church. Not surprisingly, this bill targeted only one church — the Catholic Church. This blatant attempt to meddle in the affairs of the Church would have, if successful, changed the way in which the Church governs itself and given unjustified power to the state. The passionate response of 4,500 citizens expressing their objection to this bigoted bill was heard loud and clear. The fight is not over. Many fear that the legislature will be used to punish and harass the Church for its consistent and courageous stand against embryonic stem cell research, gay marriage, abortion and other issues. This bill was a direct attack on the leadership, both clergy and laity, of our Church. That two state senators would even think they had the right to propose laws to change the internal structure of the Catholic Church, or any other church, is chilling.

Catholics need to accept the reality that our Church is under attack and we need to find the courage to respond quickly and clearly in her defense. We have seen our faith demeaned in the movies, in TV series, by late night comics, etc. Great care

is taken not to offend other religions. It appears that the Catholic Church, her clergy, and beliefs are safe ground for any type of disrespectful attack. We have been silent too long. The voices of 4,500 Connecticut protestors were heard loud and clear. Our voices must be heard whenever our Church is attacked.

The "Give Act"

The Mandatory Youth Services Bill (HR 1388) has been passed in D.C. The purpose of the bill is to require mandatory volunteer service through AmeriCorps, even though Fox News believes the legislation could cost up to \$6 billion over 5 years. AmeriCorps volunteers have a history of being employed by community programs including Planned Parenthood. Volunteers could end up counseling P.P. clients to recommend and arrange abortions. It is uncertain whether participants can work in Acorn.

As a presidential candidate, Obama promised a national service program closely allied with the non-profit sector. In other words, he wants to fund America's youth into volunteer work alongside the likes of Acorn. So Obama's favorite community organizers may soon be training your children. Obama and Biden hope to expand AmeriCorps and the Peace Corps with a goal that all middle and high school students do 50 hrs. of service a year and will establish a tax credit worth \$4,000 in exchange for 100 hrs. of public service per year. Let's hope that our military personnel will be included in the bonanza. They are all volunteers!

Helpers of God's Precious Infants

July 4th Vigil at the Marian Shrine. Take exit 14 off the PIP, turn right. The Shrine is on the right after approx. 2 miles. 10 AM, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament; 11:15, Rosary; 12:00, Mass.

A Letter to Rockland's Schools

What are your children being taught and by whom? A letter was sent to every school district in Rockland County inquiring about the sexuality curriculum. We wanted to know what was taught and who taught it. The school districts that responded were Nyack and Clarkstown CSD. The health coordinator for Clarkstown, Mrs. Chiarello, informed us that their sex. ed. curriculum is developed by the health educators in conjunction with a committee of parents who help develop, review, and approve it. Also, the curriculum does not use any supplementary materials from outside organizations. Nyack has a similar program. This is a sound approach and we appreciate Clarkstown and Nyack's cooperation. You as parents and grandparents need to know who is teaching and what is being taught your child. Call your school district and inquire.

Congratulations!

Respect Life Inc., which marches every year in Pearl River's St. Patrick's Day Parade, was awarded a trophy. Fr. Brendan Gormley carried a large painting of the Divine Mercy of Jesus and others carried a painting of Our Lady of Guadalupe.

A Parishioner's Comment

In November 2008, Thom Kleiner, an Orangetown Supervisor who is now seeking the Rockland Cty Executive's position, was scheduled to speak at a woman's group at St. Margaret's. Concerned people from the parish requested the meeting be cancelled. Mr. Kleiner was once on the board of PP and has been at the Legislature seeking funds for the same. Gratefully, through the intervention of the parenting coordinator of the Archdiocese of NY, the meeting was cancelled. Unfortunately, a week later, Kleiner was permitted to distribute medals to the boy scouts of the parish.

† **May we never misuse our healing gifts!** †

Readers may be interested in information received from Bill Martin on the Family Life Conference at St. Joseph's Seminary given by the Sisters of Life in March. Below is a listing of phone numbers: Maggie Gallagher, affects on same sex marriage: 888-894-3604; Damon Owens, theology of the body vs. P.P.: 1-800-376-0520; Kathleen Gallagher, road map to hope: 518-434-6195; Damian Wargo, protecting families against pornography: call the Sisters of Life at 212-371-1011 ext. 3195

More Phone Numbers

Courage: 212-307-1801 or 753-8418 (apostolate for the same-sex attracted who want to live chastely)

Nativity Creche

In spite of the inclement weather, the lighting of the Creche at the Legislature building in New City was well-attended. We thank Fr. Samoyla for his religious service, the children from St. Augustine's for their angelic singing of the traditional Christmas carols, and Scott Vanderhoef, our county executive, for his thoughtful Christmas address.

A Catholic Secretary?

Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of Health & Human Services is a Roman Catholic who believes that all life is sacred and is personally opposed to abortion, but she says she does not want to criminalize women and their doctors as an effective way of reducing the number of abortions in our nation. Does she listen to our Pope Benedict, successor to Peter, who instructs us we must work instead in support of life from conception to natural death? We can better protect human life by becoming better informed on matters that effect all aspects of pro-life *and act* — write your newspaper, call your local station (WRCR 1300 AM), stand up for your principles, or you'll fall for anything.

In 1972, Archbishop Sheen stated at a Knights of Columbus meeting, "Who is going to save the Church? Not our bishops, not our priests and religious. It is up to the people. You have the minds, the eyes, the ears to save the Church. Your mission is to see that your priests act like priests, your bishops like bishops, and your religious act like religious."



Good people did nothing...and prayer was banned from our Public Schools.

Good people did nothing...and Roe vs. Wade opened the door for abortion on demand.

Good people did nothing...and now you have to be careful about even saying "Merry Christmas."

We just can't afford to do nothing anymore.

Bills to Watch

Call your representatives and voice your opinion!

A.7732 & S.584: Same-Sex Marriage Act. Would reverse traditional marriage between a man and a woman.

S. 3111: Nat'l Life at Conception Act, a bill to implement equal protection under the 14th article of amendment to the Constitution for the right to life of each person born and pre-born.

A.77321 & S.4401: NYS Marriage Equality Act, by Gov. Patterson.

DONATIONS

Will humbly be accepted to the Rockland County Catholic Coalition

Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Info

Washington, D.C.

Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY)
313 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-6542

Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY)
531 Dirksen Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-4451

Rep. John Hall
1217 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-5441

Rep. Eliot Engel (17th District)
2161 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-2464

Rep. Nita Lowey (18th District)
2329 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-6506

New York Senate

38th District: Thomas Morahan
Rockland: 158 Airport Executive Park
Nanuet, NY 10954; 845-425-1818
Albany: 848 Legislative Office Bldg.
Albany, NY 12247; 518-455-3261
morahan@senate.state.ny.us

New York Assembly

94th District: Kenneth P. Zebrowski
District: 67 N. Main St., New City,
NY 10956; 845-634-9791
Albany: LOB 631, Albany, NY 12248;
518-455-5735
zebrowski@assembly.state.ny.us

95th District: Ellen Jaffee
District: 1 Blue Hill Plaza, Suite 1116,
POB 1549, Pearl River, NY 10965;
845-624-4601
Albany: LOB 530, Albany, NY 12248;
518-455-4601
jaffee@assembly.state.ny.us

96th District: Nancy Calhoun
District: 1012 Little Britain Road,
Suite 900, New Windsor, NY 12553;
845-567-3141
Albany: LOB 525, Albany, NY 12248;
518-455-5441
calhoun@assembly.state.ny.us

97th District: Annie Rabbit
District: 41 High St., Goshen, NY
10924; 845-291-3631
Albany: LOB 532, Albany, NY 12248;
518-455-5991
rabbita@assembly.state.ny.us