

# Oregon, That's Life

*The Culture of Life Newsletter of the Oregon Knights of Columbus*

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## From the Directors

Welcome to Volume 6 of “*Oregon, That's Life*”. As we said in our first issue back in 2017, we hope to convey items of use and interest regarding the sanctity of life. There has been no dearth of articles to include. May this year have a greater percentage of positive news.

Life is fragile; Let's work together to build it up. Remember, Oregon: *THAT'S LIFE!*

### USCCB Novena for Life

*9 Days for Life* is a novena sponsored by the USCCB (United States Conference of Catholic Bishops) from January 19 through 27 for the protection of human life. Each day's intention is accompanied by a short reflection and suggested actions to help build a culture of life. For more information or to register, visit: <https://www.respectlife.org/9-days-signup>

### January 22: Day of Prayer for Unborn Children

January 22 is the *Day of Prayer for Unborn Children*. According to the USCCB, we are called to observe this day through the penitential practices of prayer, fasting and/or giving alms. Another way to take part is by participating in special events to observe the anniversary of *Roe v. Wade*. Your Life Couple recommends Adoration to pray for the Dobbs Case, or saying a Rosary privately for the Dobbs Case.

### National March for Life

The National March for Life takes place in Washington, D.C., on January 21, 2022. As they say on their website at <https://marchforlife.org/>, abortion is the most significant human rights abuse of our time. Will you take a stand?

### Oregon Right To Life March for Life

The ORTL March for Life is Saturday, January 29, at the State Capitol Building in Salem. Your Life Couple will be hosting a table there. Stop by and say “hello”!

Knights of Columbus councils are encouraged to participate in or sponsor local, state/province, regional or national Marches for Life. According to Supreme, Councils that coordinate at least 25 participants or who organize a local March for Life will receive credit for this program.

## Life News in 2021

January saw the immediate erosion of pro-life rights by the Biden administration, starting with funding World Health Organization abortion activities, and reversing the Trump “*Protect Life Rule*” that prevented Title X federal funds from funding abortion businesses.

Lovejoy Surgicenter, Oregon's most notorious abortion facility, closed on January 16. Unfortunately it was replaced in March by the Lilith Clinic.

On March 15 the *Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith* specified the Church can not bless same-sex unions.

In April a federal judge blocked David Daleiden of *The Center for Medical Progress* from releasing more videos showing possible evidence of infanticide by the abortion industry.

Also in April, the U.S. State Department announced that abortion is a “human right”.

On May 5 the National Center for Health Statistics released a report showing the U.S. birthrate has been declining steadily for the past 6 years, and the birth rate is below “replacement level”.

On May 27 the U.S. Senate voted against an amendment that would have prohibited the creation of animal-human hybrid organisms by combining human and non-human DNA.

SB586 (the *Born-Alive Infant Protection bill*), failed in the Oregon Legislature on June 26.

On July 28, former-cardinal Theodore McCarrick was charged with the 1974 sexual assault of a minor.

On December 1 the Supreme Court (SCOTUS) heard *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, which challenges a Mississippi ban on abortion after 15 weeks. The verdict is expected sometime in June 2022.

In November, Guinness World Records announced the world's youngest premature baby to survive was Curtis Means, born at 21 weeks and 1 day.

And we end with another positive note: In 2021 Oregon Knights of Columbus Councils purchased SIX ultrasounds for pregnancy centers.

### McCarrick Court Case

A second pre-trial hearing was held at Dedham District Court in Massachusetts on December 21 for the case against former cardinal Theodore McCarrick, who is accused of three counts of indecent assault and battery on a person over 14. The Court continued the case to March 3, 2022.

It is hoped that the McCarrick case will be a catalyst for criminal charges against many more clerics who abused their power over the vulnerable.

### Do-It-Yourself Suicide in Switzerland

The Swiss pocketknife isn't the only gadget available in Switzerland. Now there is the Sarco Suicide Pod, a portable container a person can enter to die within minutes by oxygen deprivation and reduced carbon dioxide in the blood. The streamlined shape of the pod is intended to suggest travel to a new destination, and may be used without the services of a doctor.

### Suicide Closer to Home

According to Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), suicide is the 10<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in the United States. There were 1.4 million attempts at suicide during 2019, and at least 47,500 deaths. And according to the Oregon Health Authority, 835 people died from suicide in Oregon during 2020, making suicide the ninth listed leading cause of death in Oregon. That does not include the 245 people who took their lives in 2020 as part of the Oregon so-called *Death with Dignity Act*.

### \$50,000 Donation

A generous anonymous donor has given \$50,000 to the Oregon Knights of Columbus State Charities for placement of ultrasound facilities on the central Oregon coast area (anywhere from Florence and going north to Lincoln City).

Does anyone know of a pregnancy facility within that area wanting an ultrasound to protect unborn children? Please let us know if you know of any. This is a wonderful opportunity that can be used to save lives. Let's make the most of it!

### Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization

*Dobbs v. Jackson* is a challenge to a Mississippi law that bans abortion after 15 weeks of pregnancy. The U.S. Supreme Court heard arguments on the *Dobbs* case December 1, and is expected to release a decision some time in June of this year. Many people hope this case will cause the Court to overturn the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision.

Justices during the hearing demonstrated different attitudes. Justice Thomas questioned where the right to abortion is found in the Constitution. Justice Breyer was concerned overruling *Roe* could hurt political perception of the Court. Discussing fetal pain, Justice Sotomayor compared unborn children to brain-dead individuals. Justice Kavanaugh noted that the Constitution is silent on abortion, leaving the issue to the states or perhaps Congress.

Let all of us continue praying for the Court to be guided by the God of life as the justices make their decision. Our nation has an opportunity to stop being a world leader of abortion. Now is the time for the United States to lead in protecting unborn children.

### Pro-Life Quote for the Month



*In the United States, abortion takes the lives of over 600,000 babies every year. Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health could change that. We pray that the Court will do the right thing and allow states to once again limit or prohibit abortion, and in doing so protect millions of unborn children and their mothers from this painful, life-destroying act. We invite all people of good will to uphold the dignity of human life by joining us in prayer and fasting for this important case.*

Archbishop William E. Lori 12/01/2021  
USCCB Committee on Pro-Life Activities Chairman

### Scriptural Verses to Remember

*Ezekiel 3:18* - If I say to the wicked, You shall surely die - and you do not warn them or speak out to dissuade the wicked from their evil conduct in order to save their lives - then they shall die for their sin, but I will hold you responsible for their blood.

*Matthew 22:39-40* - The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments.”

*John 1:14* - And the Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us, and we saw his glory, the glory as of the Father's only Son, full of grace and truth.