

PARISH 'LIFE' NEWS

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Catholic Bishops Say Surrogacy is Harmful to Women, Dismisses Value of Motherhood

The Catholic bishops in Michigan have decried a new state law that has legalized and regulated surrogacy.

In a news release, the Michigan Catholic Conference, which includes each of the state's seven bishops, remarked that the "Michigan Family Protection Act" dismisses both the value of motherhood and concerns that women will become more vulnerable to exploitation and human trafficking.

The Conference acknowledged that creating opportunities to raise children and start a family is a good thing. However, surrogacy brings a "societal cost" that will impact women, especially single mothers and women who are struggling financially.

According to the Conference, the surrogacy industry in Michigan will soon begin recruiting and targeting women to use their bodies to create children for other people.

[New Surrogacy Laws Place Vulnerable Women at Greater Risk,](#)



Premature Baby Born the Size of a Soda Can Beats the Odds, Celebrates First Birthday

Baby Jo arrived at just 23 weeks and 4 days gestation after her mother, Carolina, was diagnosed with pre-eclampsia. Carolina had to undergo an emergency cesarean section and Jo was born weighing just 12 ounces (340g) and measuring just 10 and a half inches (27cm) long.

Due to her prematurity, Jo had underdeveloped lungs and required the use of oxygen. Her parents were told that the chances of her survival were low.

Jo's parents were finally allowed to hold their baby when she was nine days old, when doctors thought that she was going to die.

Dr Everette said "It was almost like Jo just got energized from the fact that her mom and dad were holding her. We could just watch her sats [oxygen saturation levels] go up, slowly but it's going up".

After 142 days in the neonatal intensive care unit, Jo was able to go home with her family. She is the smallest baby to survive at St Francis Children's Hospital, and is on the Tiniest Baby Registry for the world's smallest surviving babies.

<https://www.lifenews.com/2024/04/05/premature-baby-born-the-size-of-a-soda-can-beats-the-odds-celebrates-first-birthday>



EU Parliament demands abortion be declared a 'fundamental right' in radical new resolution

The European Parliament has adopted a radical resolution that calls for the inclusion of virtually unrestricted abortion in the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights.

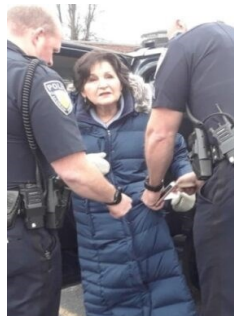
On April 11th, 336 voted in favor of the text, 163 voted against, and 39 abstained.

The resolution seeks to amend Article 3 of the EU Rights Charter to state that "everyone has the right to bodily autonomy, to free, informed, full and universal access to SRHR [so-called 'sexual and reproductive health rights'], and to all related healthcare services, without discrimination," including abortion.

The text also attacks doctors and nurses who refuse to participate in an abortion due to conscience objections, falsely claiming that delaying abortions could harm women.

Two days before the vote, the bishops of the European Union condemned the plan to include the "right to abortion" in the EU Charter, reiterating that "Abortion can never be a fundamental right."

[EU Parliament demands abortion be declared a 'fundamental right' in radical new resolution - LifeSite \(lifesitenews.com\)](#)



CONCENTRATION CAMP SURVIVOR FACES JAIL TIME FOR 'BLOCKADE' OF ABORTION FACILITY

Eva Edl, 89, an elderly concentration camp survivor, faces **11 years in prison** for obstructing the entrance to an abortion facility in Tennessee in 2021. The court convicted Eva Edl, 89, and three others — Eva Zastrow, 25, James Zastrow, 27, and Paul Place, 26 — for misdemeanor violations of the Freedom of Access to Clinic Entrances (FACE) Law. FACE prohibits interfering with a woman seeking to get an abortion at a clinic.

Authorities charged the defendants after they sang hymns and prayed at the Carafem Health Center in Mount Juliet, Tennessee, on March 5, 2021. The Biden Department of Justice described their actions as an illegal "blockade."

<https://thenationalpulse.com/2024/04/04/89-year-old-concentration-camp-survivor-faces-11-years-in-jail-for-praying-at-abortion-clinic>

FLORIDA COURT ALLOWS PRO-LIFE LAW, PRO-ABORTION BALLOT MEASURE

The Florida Supreme Court on Monday ruled that the state's law protecting most unborn children after six weeks of gestation is constitutional and can go into effect. On the same day, the court also allowed a pro-abortion constitutional amendment to be placed on Florida's November ballot.

[Florida Supreme Court allows one of nation's strictest abortion bans to take effect - The Washington Post](#)



Nationally funded database classifies Students for Life as a 'terrorist group'

A government-funded "radicalization" database has labeled Students for Life of America (SFLA) a "terrorist" group, prompting criticism from terrorism experts.

The PIRUS database lists two individuals associated with SFLA who match the description of student members who were arrested in 2020 for attempting to chalk "black pre-born lives matter" on a sidewalk outside of a Planned Parenthood center. The pro-lifers were arrested despite being told verbally by police that they would not be prevented from painting and having been instructed to use tempura paint.

Meanwhile, the city permitted its streets to be widely vandalized in permanent paint with Black Lives Matter messages just before the pro-lifers' arrests.

<https://www.lifesitenews.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/Preborn-Lives-Matter-e1712142406758-810x500.png>

CATHOLIC GROUP BLASTS ILLINOIS 'ASSISTED SUICIDE' BILL

The Illinois Catholic Conference is pushing back against a proposed bill that would legalize physician-assisted suicide in the state. Robert Gilligan, executive director of the Conference, told Chicago Catholic that Church teaching forbids assisted suicide, since "our lives don't belong to ourselves." He added that insurance companies might choose assisted suicide drugs over treatments for an illness based on costs.

He also cautioned about the slippery slope the state could go down if the bill becomes law. For example, as the legislation is currently written, a person must be an Illinois resident to receive the medication, but that could always be lifted, as is being pushed for in other states.

Also, currently it would only be for a person with a terminal illness, but that could change later too, Gilligan said.

[Assisted suicide legislation introduced in Illinois General Assembly - Chicagoland - Chicago Catholic 4/3/24](#)

ADMINISTRATION TO IMPOSE PRO-ABORTION RULE ON EMPLOYERS

The Biden administration announced a new rule April 14th which aims to force employers to cover abortion under the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act (PWFA). The over 400-page rule mentions the word "abortion" a total of 348 times. House Education and the Workforce Committee Chairwoman Virginia Foxx, a Catholic, slammed the rule stating, "Adding this controversial provision into the PWFA is wrong.

Period." [2024-07527.pdf \(federalregister.gov\)](#)

Vatican's 'Dignitas Infinita' Draws 'Clear Line' on Gender Theory, Receives Widespread Praise

Dignitas Infinita (Infinite Dignity), published April 8 under the direction of the Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith (DDF) prefect Cardinal Víctor Manuel Fernández, Fiducia's principal author, offers a compelling affirmation of Church teaching on sex and gender.

Although Dignitas Infinita also addresses issues like abortion, war and poverty, its six-paragraph treatment of gender theory and sex-change procedures has garnered the most attention from both Catholic and mainstream media. And for good reason: The document is the first time that the Church's universal teaching authority has weighed in on the topic with such focus.

It states, "all attempts to obscure reference to the ineliminable sexual differences between man and woman are to be rejected."

[National Catholic Register 4/9/24](#)

Read the whole declaration here: [Declaration "Dignitas Infinita" on Human Dignity \(2 April 2024\) \(vatican.va\)](#)

Planned Parenthood Killed 392,715 Babies in Abortions Last Year, a Record Number



Planned Parenthood just published its annual report, its own figures from the previous year. And when it comes to abortions, the new report shows the abortion business killed 392,715 babies in abortions in the last year. That's a 5% increase from the 2021-2022 figures.

That's over 1,075 babies killed in abortions every single day of the year or 44 dead babies every single hour.

With the pro-abortion Guttmacher Institute estimating 930,160 abortions, this means Planned Parenthood kills 42% of all babies killed in abortions in the United States.

[Planned Parenthood Killed 392,715 Babies in Abortions Last Year, a Record Number - LifeNews.com 4/16/24](#)

Catholic Nuns Fight in Court Against New York Mandate Forcing Them to Fund Abortions



A diverse coalition of religious groups was at the New York Court of Appeals yesterday to continue their fight against the state's abortion mandate. In *Diocese of Albany v. Harris*, a group of Anglican and Catholic nuns, Catholic dioceses, Christian churches, and faith-based social ministries sued New York after it mandated that they cover abortion in their employee health insurance plans in violation of their religious beliefs.

A decision is expected later this year.

[Catholic Nuns Fight in Court Against New York Mandate Forcing Them to Fund Abortions - LifeNews.com 4/17/24](#)