

August 7, 2002

Most Rev. Roger J. Foys  
Bishop of Diocese of Covington  
422 Wallace Avenue  
Covington, Kentucky 41014

Your Excellency:

On behalf of all the volunteers of Northern Kentucky Right To Life, be assured that you are in our prayers. We extend to you, as the new Bishop of the Diocese of Covington, a warm welcome to Northern Kentucky.

Northern Kentucky Right To Life, one of the midwest's largest and most active defenders of the sanctity of all innocent human life, was founded in 1979 by the Most Rev. Richard H. Ackerman, then Bishop of the Diocese of Covington. As the largest ecumenical organization in the Commonwealth of Kentucky and in the Greater Cincinnati area, NKRTL has consistently and uncompromisingly responded to the Holy Father's command: "STAND UP FOR LIFE!"

NKRTL has professed the sanctity of life principles taught by the Catholic Church—abortion is morally unacceptable, no matter what the circumstances may be. There are no exceptions to this basic principle, for those who are Pro-Life cannot tolerate as morally acceptable, even a "little bit" of abortion.

It is this commitment to unchangeable principles that has been the basis of our organization's continual efforts to change the hearts and minds of our fellow citizens and to enact legislation offering some protection to the unborn child and his or her mother, and to protect the aged and the infirmed.

Through the efforts of NKRTL to educate the citizenry of Northern Kentucky, many have been elected to the Kentucky General Assembly, people who have not only voted and supported Pro-Life legislation, but who have provided Pro-Life leadership. As has been noted by both friend and foe, the "right to life" is, and continues to be, the number one political and moral issue in Northern Kentucky.

Our Witness

Enclosed are copies of more recent newsletters and a copy of our January, 2002 Annual March For Life newspaper ad, published in both the *Kentucky Post* and the *Cincinnati Enquirer, Kentucky Edition*.

Also enclosed is a copy of *Celebrate Life*, published by the American Life League, featuring an article about our President, Robert C. Cetrulo, whose tireless leadership has provided the zeal to continue our efforts for more than thirty years.

### Health Department

For almost five (5) years, one of the struggles in this marketplace of ideas to which volunteers of NKRTL has devoted so much time and energy, has been our efforts to change the Northern Kentucky Health Department policy of dispensing the so-called “birth control” pills and other contraceptives to patients using the services of the public clinics. The primary recipients of these drugs and devices are teenage girls, and since the funding for these evil activities is provided from funds under the Federal Title X Program, parental consent and notification is forbidden.

Since NKRTL’s initiative of September, 1997, calling for the cessation of the distribution of these pills and contraceptives was defeated (by a vote of 16-2), we have worked tirelessly to inform the electorate how their tax funds were being used. After success at the ballot box over a couple of elections, new members were appointed to the Health Department Board.

During this time, NKRTL continued its efforts to make others aware that one of the effects of the standard “birth control” pill was to impede implantation of the newly conceived child in the mother’s womb, resulting in the child’s death. Many, even those who may have taken the pill, prescribed it, or filled prescriptions for it, have come to understand that the standard “birth control” pill can cause a chemical abortion, which increased the support for cessation of the distribution of these chemicals and devices.

The medical evidence, as you know, clearly demonstrates that the standard “birth control” pill can act as an abortifacient. (See the enclosed ad purchased both in the May 25, 2002 *Kentucky Post* and in the *Cincinnati Enquirer, Kentucky Edition*.)

Also enclosed is a video of one of the programs NKRTL produced for public access cable TV, under the direction of board member, Stan Barzcak. In this edition of *Gift of Life*, Robert C. Cetrulo, Fred H. Summe, and Arthur M. Kunath, MD, discuss the abortifacient nature of the “birth control” pills, and the resolutions before the Kenton Fiscal Court and the Health Department Board, concerning the cessation of the funding of the distribution of “birth control” pills and other contraceptives, especially to teenage girls.

Our educational efforts also provided documentation that the distribution of contraceptives to teenagers not only encourages promiscuity, but has resulted in the increase in sexually transmitted diseases. The dispensing of these drugs and devices contributed to our nation’s increase in child and sexual abuse, spouse abuse, chemical dependency, divorce, breast cancer, unwanted pregnancy, etc.

A Guest Editorial by NKRTL Board members Cetrulo, Kunath, and Summe was submitted to *The Messenger*, but not published. The enclosed editorial was published in the *Kentucky Post* and in the secular weekly newspaper, *The Community Recorder*.

On June 19, 2002, the Northern Kentucky Health Department again was called upon to vote on a resolution rejecting Title X Funds, which requires the distribution of “birth control” pills and other forms of contraceptives. By a vote of 14 to 13, the resolution failed, allowing the Health Department to continue its disastrous policy.

Even though we are disappointed in this decision, NKRTL will continue its efforts to teach that which the Catholic Church has always taught—abortion and contraceptives are intrinsically evil.

### Monthly Liturgy

Besides sponsoring a monthly Mass at one of the parishes in the diocese, NKRTL helped initiate here the national project begun by Msgr. Phillip Reilly of Brooklyn, Helpers of God’s Precious Infants, offered the second Saturday of every month at Holy Name Church on Auburn Avenue in Cincinnati. Following the Mass, there is a Rosary Procession to a Planned Parenthood abortion facility two blocks away. After returning to the Church, the services are concluded with Benediction.

Thanks to the efforts of Father Paul Berscheid, pastor of St. Cecilia Church, Independence, Kentucky, who regularly celebrates the Mass, this effort has continued for more than five years. On two occasions, Archbishop Daniel Pilarczyk has offered the Mass and has led the Rosary Procession. Auxiliary Bishop Carl Modell also has been the main celebrant.

We hope your schedule will soon permit you to accept our invitation, made on behalf of Catholic Pro-Lifers throughout the Greater Cincinnati area, to preside at the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, there.

### Celebration of Life

On Sunday afternoon, **September 29**, NKRTL will hold its 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration for Life. We have been blessed with outstanding speakers, a “who’s who” of the Pro-Life movement, including **Father Frank Pavone**, Priests for Life, **Bishop Austin B. Vaughn**, Auxiliary Bishop of New York City, Renowned Catholic columnist, **Joseph Sobran**, **Judy Brown**, President of the American Life League, **Professor Charles E. Rice**, Notre Dame University, etc. Also enclosed is the 2000 Celebration of Life program which featured our guest speaker, **Dr. Janet Smith, Ph.D.**, who explained the contraceptive/abortion connection.

Annually, we have had a Catholic priest and a Protestant Minister to offer the invocation and the benediction. We would be honored if you would accept our invitation to offer the Invocation that afternoon at 2:30. There you will also have the opportunity to

meet volunteers from over 25 Pro-Life organizations from various parts of Kentucky and Greater Cincinnati, to whom we furnish free exhibit space.

#### Request for a Meeting

When your schedule permits, we would be most grateful for an opportunity to meet with you in order to better understand how we can assist you in the proclaiming of the sanctity of all innocent human life.

We are honored to be involved in the work that Pope John Paul II described to Fr. Paul Marx, OSB, Ph.D., founder of Human Life International as “Your work is the most important work in the world.”

May God’s blessings be upon you.

Respectfully and with Prayers,  
From Faithful Sons and Daughters of the Church

Enclosures:

May 2002 NKRTL Newsletter

2002 March for Life newspaper ad

Program from 2000 Celebration of Life

NKRTL 5/25/02 newspaper ad

*Celebrate Life*, Published by American Life League

Kunath/Summe/Cetrulo Guest Editorial in *Community Recorder*

*Gift of Life* video

Letter from Bishop Richard H. Ackerman (12/8/79)

Letter from Judie Brown, *American Life League* (6/25/02)

Letter from *One More Soul* (6/17/02)