

July 30, 2003

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Most Rev. Roger J. Foys, D.D. - Personal
Bishop of Covington
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Your Excellency:

Again, thank you for accepting our invitation to offer the Benediction at the 30th Annual Celebration for Life scheduled for Sunday, October 12, at the Drawbridge Estates at Fort Mitchell. Your opening Benediction would occur probably at about 2:15. The doors open at 1:15 with some 30-plus sister Pro-Life organizations having free tables to display their memberships and ministries. We hope that you can join us early for a soft drink and introduction to all of those folks.

During one of our prior conferences, you graciously inquired, "What would you like me to do?". With such an offer, we feel free to make several specific requests of you at this time.

In order to promote our annual Celebration for Life, and also to enhance our membership drive, we would like to place an ad in *The Messenger* sometime in September. Since the ad will also promote the monthly Mass at Holy Name Church sponsored by the Helpers of God's Precious Infants, we would like to have your permission to photograph you when you offer the Mass on Saturday, September 13. *The Catholic Telegram* took the picture of Fr. Greg Konnerman as part of its promotion of the monthly Mass. A picture of you, as a Bishop, offering the Mass, which we can place in a newspaper ad and in our newsletter, would encourage others to attend.

Celebration for Life

Fr. John Schulte, Pastor of All Saints Church in Walton, and Rev. Mike Albertson, Pastor of the New Hope United Methodist Church in Southgate, have been kind to accept the Co-Chairmanship of this year's event. Our speaker this year is Dr. Steven Mosher, president of the Population Research Institute, who is not only a recognized authority on China and its one child per family birth control policy, but is also an authority on the overpopulation myth. Enclosed is an article which Dr. Mosher had written for *Catholic World Report*.

We have also been very fortunate at the Celebration to have a number of student volunteers from the various high schools. Having you attend the Celebration this year will go a long way in encouraging these youth to "stand up for life," as our Pope constantly reminds us.

Ad

We would request that you join NKRTL's active membership by sending a check in for \$20.00 dues, and make a statement in our ad encouraging others to join NKRTL, and praising what you have described to us in our meetings as "the heroic efforts of NKRTL for the past 32 years," and encouraging attendance at the Celebration and participation in all of our events, in effectively advancing, as we have now for three decades, what the Pope has frequently called "the ultimate issue."

Such statements from you, endorsing our efforts and activities, would not only encourage attendance at the

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Celebration, and at the monthly Mass, but would also demonstrate the efforts of NKRTL and the principles that it has consistently promoted, as conforming with the teachings of the Catholic Church. It will then be obvious that these programs have the support of the Ordinary of this diocese, something which has not occurred for the past 25 years, since Bishop Richard H. Ackerman, one of NKRTL's founding members.

We are not asking direct financial support from the diocese. Even though our activities are totally volunteer, there are the inescapable and substantial expenses of rent, utilities, printing and postage, paper, etc. which obviously cannot be carried on with our modest annual dues, and therefore we succeed only with extraordinary donations made by several generous people. Your public endorsement would go a long way in these respects.

You commented to us on July 17 that you were very impressed with the "abstinence only" billboards running throughout Kenton County, sponsored by the Northern Kentucky Independent District Health Department. We are certain that you understand, from the copious materials we have furnished you previously, that that favorable action is a direct result of six years of dedicated public education and political activity, led almost exclusively by NKRTL, which resulted in the election of three different county judges, and a substantial personnel replacement on the NKIDHD board. We would only progress beyond that point with the public and clear teaching of the Shepherd of this diocese.

As we pointed out to you, Dr. Jim Noll, longtime faithful Catholic NFP teacher, and other Pro-Life members of the board, whom we were influential in having appointed, have been rejected for reappointment, by a pro-abortion Catholic physician, Dr. Steven Hiltz, and a weak Kenton County (Catholic) judge executive, Richard Murgatroyd. The tide now is beginning to run the other way and, we believe, is irreversible until Catholics are openly and forcefully taught their obligation by the Catholic teacher, the Bishop.

We would request also that you request the editor of *The Messenger* to place our full-page ad on the back page of *The Messenger* — which is something that has never been permitted in the past.

Your kind and gracious words of encouragement and support to us in our private meetings have indeed been a source of encouragement to us. Without your public expression of those, we will obviously continue to meet with the apathy and indeed hostility on the part of some in positions of authority in the diocese, who have publicly demonstrated their disagreement with the official teachings of the Catholic Church on these issues, as we have documented for you.

Respectfully,

For the Northern Kentucky Right To Life Board of Directors,
by its Executive Committee

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Enclosure

cc: Fr. Paul L. Berschied
Fr. Daniel J. Saner
NKRTL Board of Directors