
NKRTL

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THE TRUE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS

Whether people realize it or not, our celebration of Christmas acknowledges the anniversary of the greatest event that ever took place in human history: **The Incarnation — God became man.**

The Incarnation demonstrates how precious God values human life. It is such a wonderful creation that the Creator became His creation.

So why do we celebrate Christmas?

Christianity proclaimed the natural law found in everyone's heart: each person's life needs to be respected and served. From this Judeo-Christian principle, there sprang forth the obligation to care for the needs of others.

Although we are gifted differently, some with superior intellects, some good health, and some great wealth, while others have none of these, our hearts tell us we are no better or no more important than anyone else. We all know our good fortunes do not prove God has a greater love for us.

Jesus Is Love card

This is the greatest reason to celebrate: 2,000 years of Christendom — two millennia of proclaiming that everyone, without exception, has a life worth living — because it is a life that begins eternity for someone God has loved forever and will love forever.

Give a Gift of Life

Fill out your Christmas gift list with a gift of life -- a gift that will be of incalculable value to the receiver, the giver, and the unborn babies. Office hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday or by special appointment by calling **431-6380**.

In addition to Christmas cards, there are all occasion cards and thank you cards in packs of 10 (\$4 each picked up at the office or \$5 each mailed to your home), bumper stickers (both magnetic and stick-on), precious feet and hands, buttons, license plates, static cling for the windows, and a variety of Pro-Life books and tapes and materials, inspirational and teaching.

We also have available the marvelous inspirational and teaching book by our President Robert C. Cetrulo, *That Reminds Me of a Story...Reflections of a Pro-Life Warrior* — an enthralling account of 32 years of Pro-Life activism, presenting an accurate snapshot of life at the end of the 20th century, and including a treasure trove of citations, references, and documents.

A complimentary inscribed copy of Mr. Cetrulo's book will be sent to anyone who donates \$50.00 or more to NKRTL Educational Fund, Inc., a charitable corporation and therefore a tax deduction.

(Book ad)

NKRTL NEWSPAPER AD NEEDS YOUR NAME - See back page

DIVISIVENESS? UNITY, ONLY IN TRUTH!

How often those in the Pro-Life movement are vilified with the adjective “divisive.” The fundamental fallacy of that slander was exposed several years ago in a beautiful article authored by **NKRTL’s Vice President, Fred H. Summe**, who correctly identified the source of disunity, pointing out: “...**there will be unity only when there is agreement on the basic principles.**”

In reality, Fred’s explanation is drawn from the clear Biblical teaching of Jesus Himself: “I have come to set the earth on fire...Do you think that I have come to establish peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. From now on a house will be divided, three against two and two against three...” Luke 12:49-53.

Ignoring the Vatican, Bishop Foyes Continues to Promote Pro-Euthanasia Advance Directives

The most recent effort by Rome to address this disunity on the part of some bishops was taken in September with the issuance of a formal document by the **Congregation for the Doctrine of Faith at Rome**, with the specific approval by **Pope Benedict XVI**, holding that the provision of food and water is “an ordinary and proportionate means of preserving life” and is mandatory.

The only exceptions authorized by moral law, to the mandatory furnishing of food and water, even artificially, are:

(1) In very remote or impoverished places, artificial provision of food and water may be physically impossible.

(2) Because of complications, a patient may be unable to assimilate food and liquids, so their provision becomes useless.

(3) In some rare cases, artificial nourishment and hydration may be excessively burdensome for the patient or cause significant physical discomfort, as for example in the last states of stomach cancer, nutrition and hydration causes pain and produces little benefit.

U.S. Dominican Father Jay Augustine DiNoia, Undersecretary of the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, stated that insistence on nutrition and hydration as an ordinary means of treatment does not represent a change in Church teaching: “The Church is not here enjoining a kind of excessive prolongation of life, but simply saying that to withdraw nutrition and hydration is to end a life, that would otherwise continue naturally.”

This document pointed out that **Pope John Paul II** had issued just such an identical formal teaching in his address of March 20, 2004: “I should like particularly to underline how the administration of food and water, even when provided by artificial means, always represents a *natural means* of preserving life, not a *medical act*.” (Emphasis by Pope John Paul II)

Unfortunately, many bishops, including **Bishop Roger J. Foyes of the Diocese of Covington, Kentucky**, continue to ignore the clear Church teaching. Bishop Foyes

allows the distribution at the St. Elizabeth Catholic Hospital of end-of-life documents that authorize the withdrawal of food and water from non-terminal patients, even though NKRTL has several times called this atrocity to his attention.

In fact, when the **Kentucky Supreme Court** three years ago issued an atrocious decision (dissented from by **Justice Donald C. Wintersheimer of Covington**) which authorized the withdrawal of food and water from non-dying patients, the **Catholic Conference of Kentucky (CCK)**, which is the association of bishops of the four Catholic dioceses in Kentucky — **Bishop Roger Foyes of Covington, Bishop Ronald Gainer of Lexington, then-Archbishop Thomas Kelly of Louisville, and Bishop John McRaith of Owensboro** — issued a statement, published in the Covington Diocesan newspaper, “applauding” the decision.

In their Revised September 2005 publication, ***Kentucky’s Advance Health Care Directives and Organ Donation: A Catholic Perspective***, signed by the four Catholic bishops of Kentucky, the CCK promotes the current pro-euthanasia ***Living Will Directive and Health Care Surrogate Designation*** featured in Kentucky law. (A copy of this document can be obtained on the CCK website: www.ccky.org, under the Publications section.)

The CCK states: “This Advance Directive is acceptable for Catholics and conforms with Kentucky’s law...The Catholic Conference of Kentucky reaffirms the Church’s belief in the value of human life and the respect due to each individual person.”

However, this Advance Directive promoted by the CCK authorizes the unrestricted withdrawal of food and hydration from non-dying patients.

These Advance Directives are in direct conflict with the **Covington Diocesan Synod**, which states:

“The Diocese of Covington shall fully implement the papal teaching on the administration of food and water as a moral obligation to sustain and comfort those persons who are in a terminal condition. The moral obligation to provide nutrition and hydration is clearly and eloquently expressed in Pope John Paul’s papal address, *Life Sustaining Treatments and Vegetative State: Scientific Advances and Ethical Dilemmas*, March 20, 2004.” (Gospel of Life/Respect Life Policy Statements, No. 52)

Thank God for Faithful Bishops

Archbishop Raymond Burke of St. Louis, in a recent published article, called to task his fellow bishops for their silence on the scandalous problem of Catholic politicians who support abortion, euthanasia, cloning, embryonic research, or other legislation “contrary to natural moral law”: “To remain silent is to permit serious confusion regarding a fundamental truth of the moral law. Confusion of

course is one of the most insidious fruits of scandalous behavior.”

The **National Conference of Catholic Bishops**, in its most recent statement on the issue, “failed to take account of the clear requirement to exclude from Holy Communion those who, after appropriate admonition, obstinately persist in supporting publicly legislation which is contrary to the natural moral law,” Archbishop Burke stated. Catholic Canon Law, Section 915.

Disunity in Untruth

On June 22, 2006, at the installation Mass for the new **Archbishop of Washington, Donald W. Wuerl**, successor to the retiring **Cardinal McCarrick**, Holy Communion was distributed to pro-abortion activist **U.S. Senator John Kerry** and pro-abortion activist **U.S. Representative Nancy Pelosi**, Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives. Similar actions have occurred in Boston, New York, Los Angeles, and many other dioceses headed by prominent cardinal archbishops of the Church, clearly causing confusion to the faithful.

Meanwhile, the majority of bishops in the United States have simply silently ignored the clear and mandatory teaching of Church law, even in the face of the recent pronouncement of **Pope Benedict XVI**, who approved excommunication of such politicians in Mexico: “This excommunication was not an arbitrary one but is allowed by canon law, which says that the killing of an innocent child is incompatible with receiving Communion, which is receiving the Body of Christ.”

Unity in Truth

“I pray that all may be one, even as thou, Father, art in me and I in thee...Consecrate them in truth.” John 17:17, 21.

RENOWNED THEOLOGIAN AND THE CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION BOTH AGREE WITH NKRTL AND NOT BISHOP FOYS

A number of physicians brought to the attention of NKRTL the signed statement of the four Kentucky bishops, CCK Guideline for Catholic Health Care Institutions Treating Victims of Sexual Assault (November 2004), in which they approved the use of the abortifacient drug (denominated as “Plan B” or “emergency contraception” or “morning-after pill”) in Catholic hospitals in cases of sexual assault. NKRTL wrote to **Bishop Foys** with the medical, legal, and theological documentation, requesting a reversal of that policy, and pointing out that the **Catholic Conference of Kentucky** had just opposed legislation for the public distribution of that drug, stating: “The primary function of the drug is abortifacient.”

Bishop Foys not only failed to respond, but refused to meet with representatives of NKRTL on this matter. Bishop Foys does not appear to dispute the well-known scientific fact that one of the functions of this drug is to impede the implantation of the newly conceived child into the uterine lining, which results in the death of the child. This is a chemical abortion.

The **Catholic Medical Association**, in its August 2007 edition of *Linacre Quarterly*, emphatically supported the position of NKRTL, stating: “...EC [emergency contraception] cannot licitly be distributed, prescribed or taken by those who profess to respect the sanctity of human life from conception to natural death. This is especially true for devout Roman Catholics.”

The Catholic Medical Association quotes the **Vatican Pontifical Academy of Life**:

“It is clear, therefore, that the proven ‘anti-implantation’ action of the morning-after pill is really nothing other than a chemically induced abortion.

“...Consequently, from the ethical standpoint the same absolute unlawfulness of abortifacient procedures also applies to distributing, prescribing and taking the morning-after pill. All who, whether sharing the intention or not, directly cooperate with this procedure are also morally responsible for it.”

Renowned theologian **Fr. Peter Damian Fehlner**, a familiar name to those who watch **EWTN**, stated: “The fact is, if we have any doubt about whether a given action would directly risk someone’s life, entail a violation of justice or threaten the salvation of a soul, we may not act on the basis of a scientific probability...That means even if the pill in Plan B is only ‘dubiously’ abortive, we simply may not use it at all.”

Fr. Fehlner, who was the North American Superior for the **Franciscan Friars of the Immaculate** in the United States from 1996 to 2002, continues: “...like every conception, in itself is a blessing, not an evil to be prevented even by the use of chemical contraceptives which have so far all been shown also to ‘conceive’ via abortion.” (LifeSiteNews.com, 10/23/07)

Dr. Eugene Diamond, Director of the Catholic Medical Association’s Linacre Institute, stated: “The evidence that the ‘morning-after’ pills are, in fact, abortifacients, is overwhelming and irrefutable.”

The published position of Bishop Foys and the CCK contradicts the statement of the **U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, Emergency “Contraception” and Early Abortion**:

"While these pills may sometimes have a contraceptive mode of action because they prevent or delay ovulation or fertilization, they are designed to prevent implantation as well.

"Thus some researchers conclude that interfering with the endometrium 'could explain the majority of cases where pregnancies are prevented by the morning-after pill.'

"Women are being falsely led to believe that these pills are contraceptive in nature. But one of their common and intended modes of action is to prevent the development of the embryo, resulting in his or her death."

Prominent moral theologian **Msgr. William Smith, Professor at St. Joseph Seminary** in Dunwoodie, New York, likewise exposed this scam:

"It's wrong to say you can use anything that has abortifacient properties. 'Emergency contraception' is double talk. It's what I call 'verbal engineering.' Catholic hospitals are not free to prescribe or provide anything with abortifacient properties without contradicting their witness. If they don't see a problem with that, someone's playing a game."

Those Catholics (clergy and laity) who are tacitly acquiescing in the scandals of these gross deviations from clear and fundamental teachings of the Catholic Church should read James 4:17: "Anyone then who knows the good he ought to do and doesn't do it, sins." See also Matthew 25:41-46.

NKRTL had privately written to Bishop Foys its concerns about (1) his public approval of withdrawing food and hydration from a non-dying patient; and (2) his approving the dispensing of the so-called "emergency contraception" in Catholic hospitals. Bishop Foys refused to address the issues raised by NKRTL and refused to even meet with members of NKRTL. He became very angry at NKRTL, which resulted in his directive to his priests not to be associated with NKRTL, nor allow NKRTL to distribute materials at church, have a monthly liturgy, collect names for its newspaper ad, or promote its pro-life events, and also directed *The Messenger* to refuse NKRTL-PAC's ads which provided the electorate with information on which they could cast a pro-life vote, which in turn helped end the election of pro-abortion candidates, such as **Steve Beshear**, who was elected governor in the November election.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD - TAXPAYER FUNDING - AND THE ENVIRONMENT!

U.S. taxpayer funding of baby killing continues with the consent of the U.S. Congress. Planned Parenthood (PP) just released in June its official 2005-2006 Annual Report showing that it killed 264,943 babies by medical and surgical abortions in its various

clinics. (**That's 5,095 every week.**) For the same period it also reported a record income of \$902.8 million, with a \$55.8 million profit.

This Annual Report shows that PP received taxpayer funds totaling \$305.3 million — \$32.6 million more than the previous year, and that taxpayer money now accounts for 34% of PP's income. The legislative approval of this massive subsidization of mass killing of babies was approved by Congress, and signed into law by **President Bush**.

Overall, PP is losing donations, and its clinic income is down, so that its \$55.8 million profit consists largely of the \$32.6 million of taxpayer money approved by your federal government.

Taxpayers' Revolt Reaching Congress

For perhaps the first time ever, the U.S. House voted on a measure that provided "that no funds under Title X may be granted to Planned Parenthood." The amendment, sponsored by **Rep. Mike Pence (R-Ind.)**, failed on a 189-231 vote, but significantly required a recorded vote, identifying for future voters those profligate members of Congress who support this public travesty.

The fact that 45 percent of the House voted specifically against PP funding has to be disconcerting for PP. Stay tuned, and write your senators and representatives.

Contracepting the Environment

A random netting of 123 trout and other fish downstream from the Boulder, Colorado, sewer plant, by EPA-funded scientists, found that 101 were female, 12 were male, and 10 were strange "intersex" fish with male and female features. Scientific investigation demonstrated that the main culprits were estrogens and other steroid hormones from birth control pills and patches, excreted in urine into the city's sewage system and then the creek.

"Many streams, rivers, and lakes already bear warning signs that the fish caught within them may also be carrying enough chemicals that mimic the female hormone estrogen to cause breast cancer cells to grow." *Scientific American*, April 2007.

"Chemicals in the contraceptive pill and other products are altering the reproductive processes of fish." *Metro UK*, March 2007.

"In the Potomac River, male small-mouth bass are sprouting eggs, and scientists blame pollution and the Pill." *Stanford Daily*, July 5, 2007.

Meanwhile, the large print and electronic news media, and the powerful environmentalists continue to ignore this dramatic and dangerous consequence of sexual hedonism, having already repealed the Sixth Commandment and substituted for it a replacement: "Thou shalt do nothing that may interfere in any way with unrestricted sexual practices of every kind."

SIGNS OF THE TIMES: GOOD, BAD, UGLY AND RIDICULOUS

British researchers would be permitted to create human/ animal embryo hybrids using test tube technology, under sweeping new proposals introduced in the British Parliament. ~~~~~

Newly-appointed Louisville Archbishop Joseph Kurtz spontaneously joined 250 people in a 90-minute prayer vigil on Saturday, November 10, in front of a Louisville abortion mill. "There was a sense, I believe, of civility and yet the courage to speak out on the convictions on behalf of the sanctity of life," Kurtz said afterward. ~~~~~

Catholics in the Public Square, a booklet published by **Bishop Thomas Olmsted** of Phoenix, Arizona, forthrightly presents orthodox Church teaching on moral issues as they touch on Catholic political responsibility, including the denial of Holy Communion to politicians who defy fundamental moral principles on issues like permissive abortion. However, **it was denied distribution in the sister diocese of Tucson, Arizona, by Bishop Gerald Kicanas, even though he was requested to authorize its distribution by many of his priests and by the Knights of Columbus State Co-Chairman.** ~~~~~

As the secular press deifies our late president **Gerald Ford** as "decent," "honorable," "thoughtful," etc., we must point out that President Ford opposed a constitutional amendment to ban all abortions and, as House Minority Leader in 1970, actively supported the pro-abortion Equal Rights Amendment. He also gave us as his sole appointment to the Supreme Court **John Paul Stevens**, who continues to cast votes to kill unborn babies 30 years later on the Court.

"The devil is in the details!" ~~~~~

The University of Kentucky Board of Trustees has expanded employee benefits to include "domestic partners." About 40 percent of the cost of such healthcare for these heterosexual or homosexual cohabiting couples will come, of course, from the taxpayers. ~~~~~

Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney, former governor of Massachusetts, who now claims to be Pro-Life as of a recent statement of his published in November of 2005, incredibly was quoted in May of 2006 as "firmly pro-choice, favoring the status quo of the law," according to a recorded quote played on the 6/14/07 edition of **AI Kresta** in the afternoon radio show. ~~~~~

Sadly, National Right to Life has endorsed the Republican presidential candidate Fred Thompson. The former senator from Tennessee in 1994 stated he supported legal abortion in the first trimester in all cases, and as a lawyer he represented the pro-abortion group, the **National Family Planning and Reproductive Health Association**, claiming that his representation of the group was separate from his beliefs.

Also, sadly, former Mayor of New York Rudy Giuliani was endorsed by Pat Robertson, and Arizona Senator John McCain was backed by Senator Sam Brownback of Kansas, after Brownback withdrew from the race. Also, former Massachusetts Governor Mitt Romney was endorsed by Paul Weyrich, founding president of The Heritage Foundation and co-founder of the Moral Majority.

Why are these so-called "pro-life" leaders endorsing a particular candidate, who is pro-abortion (Giuliani), or who now claims to be pro-life, but has a "mixed" track record (Thompson, Romney, and McCain)?

Why are the two Republican presidential candidates who have consistently held the pro-life position, Texas Rep. **Ron Paul**, and former Ambassador to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations **Alan Keyes**, ignored by these so-called pro-life leaders, especially so early in the race? ~~~~~

Karen Shabin, a former member of the National Abortion and Reproductive Rights Action League (NARAL), told an audience at Princeton University on October 10, that greater support during pregnancy, not abortion, is what women need and want. ~~~~~

Sixteen of the U.S. senators who voted for a recent piece of legislation to fund groups that perform and promote abortion in foreign countries claim to be Catholic. This would overturn a policy which **President Bush** instituted on his first day in office in 2001, that protects taxpayers from funding international abortions.

Fr. Thomas Euteneuer, President of Human Life International, referred to this group as "the gang of 16" and stated: "For the most part it's the usual suspects who claim to be Catholic while their consistent pro-abortion votes amount to a betrayal of the Catholic faith. At a time when these same politicians bewail America's standing in the world, they vote to export death to nations that don't want it, in violation of those nations' religious traditions. They are the new 'ugly Americans,' practicing imperialism at its worst."

The "gang of 16" includes: **Robert Casey, Jr. (D-Pa.), Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.), John Kerry (D-Mass.), Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.), Susan Collins (R-Maine), Robert Menendez (D-NJ), Mary Landrieu (D-La.), Ken Salazar (D-Col.), Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), Richard Durbin (D-Ill.), Maria Kantwell (D-**

Wash.), Patty Murray (D-Wash.), Jack Reed (D-RI), Christopher Dodd (D-Ct.), Claire McCaskell (D-Mo.).

“The great disappointment is here’s Robert Casey, Jr., whose late father courageously stood against the tide for life in his political party,” noted Fr. Euteneuer. “It is disgusting that Casey, Jr. ran as a ‘pro-life’ candidate. He has betrayed those who voted for him on those grounds.”

NKRTL’S 34TH ANNUAL CELEBRATION FOR LIFE HOSPICE CARE - BEWARE, NOT ALL ARE THE SAME

Greg Patterson, the guest speaker at the **34th Annual Celebration for Life** sponsored by **Northern Kentucky Right to Life**, taught our audience:

“Hospice care is comfort care focused on the patient and family. It gives people time to complete life’s works – forgiving, seeking forgiveness, sharing love, and saying goodbye – by freeing the patient from pain, loneliness, and despair. True hospice should neither hasten nor delay death.

“Euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide is defined as an act or mission done with the intent of killing so that all suffering can be eliminated. Active euthanasia would be an injection by someone. Passive euthanasia would be an omission, leaving out food and water,” explains **Greg Patterson**, a certified hospice administrator with over 20 years of experience in healthcare and founder and CEO of **Covenant Hospice**.

PRINCIPLES OF CARE

Mr. Patterson continued: “On care, what we’re talking about is ordinary care given to a patient, and it should not be withheld or should not be interrupted, and by normal care I’m talking about oral care (teeth, gums), skin care, and food and water.

“Why is there a perceived need for euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide? The biggest reason is fear. People are afraid, and they don’t want to die alone and they don’t want to die in pain. If hospice is done right, there should be no reason for people to die alone or in pain.

“Ninety percent of the people do not understand that hospice is a government benefit that’s virtually 100 percent paid for. Ninety-five to ninety-eight percent of pain can be controlled by our current pain technology. There’s just a very sliver of cases that we can’t control it, and in that case we use sedation.

“Depression is a leading cause of people seeking euthanasia, and the treatment for depression is not murder. The treatment for depression is love. When a patient has someone sitting at their bedside holding their hand and telling them it’s going to be okay, that’s love.

“The sick person who feels surrounded by a loving human presence does not give way to depression.

“Hospice is a Medicare benefit, Medicare benefit meaning it’s controlled, regulated, and paid for by the federal government. Every hospice organization can develop its own ethical practices. They have to be regulated by the Medicare benefits that we all have to follow the same set of rules and regulations, but we can decide our own ethical principles.

“Who pays for hospice care? Medicare pays for about 90 percent of all hospice care. Insurance companies and Medicaid also.

“What should your local hospice company provide? Twenty-four hour staffing – nurses, social workers, home health aides, chaplains. These are the things that hospice companies must provide. We pay for 100 percent of the prescriptions – durable medical equipment, wheelchairs, those kind of things – and medical supplies related to the terminal diagnosis. If a patient has lung cancer, for example, we’re going to be paying for all the meds that relate to that lung cancer – pain medications, the inhalers, that kind of thing.

“We also provide grief support and counseling to our families. When we admit a patient into our program, we don’t just admit the patient, we admit the whole family. We treat the whole family because what’s going to happen when the patient’s gone?”

Covenant Hospice, co-founded by Greg Patterson, is a Medicare-certified program whose team works together to develop a plan of care, assuring that proper nursing care is provided, that pain and symptoms are managed, that personal needs, such as bathing, feeding, and housekeeping are arranged, and that treating physicians are kept informed — always in accord with unchanging natural law moral principles.

Fred H. Summe, V.P., and Robert C. Cetrulo, Pres. Of NKRTL, interview Greg Patterson for Gift of Life, to aired on Insight Cable TV, Channel 17.

CELEBRATION FOR LIFE

The Celebration for Life was held at the Drawbridge Inn in Fort Mitchell on Sunday, September 23, 2007. The Invocation was offered by **Paul C. Kleemeier**, 4th Degree Knight of Columbus.

The music was graciously provided by **Abigail Westwood**, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by **Katie Walker**, President of Northern Kentucky University RTL.

EUTHANASIA

Greg Patterson explains: "There are 4,000 different hospices, and they should all provide the same basic care, but their missions are different. Covenant is different because we oppose physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia. Not all hospices take that same approach.

"If the goal of physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia is to eliminate suffering, I have to tell you that doesn't happen. In the first right to die case involving Nancy Cruzan, she was involved in a car accident and basically she lost brain functioning. The parents entered into a court battle to have life support removed from their daughter. They lost this court battle, but ultimately the mom and dad divorced and the father committed suicide and left a suicide note saying that he was sorry for what he had done.

"What is 'artificial hydration and nutrition'?"

"It's really a catch phrase generally thought to mean the food and fluids provided by means of a tube.

"The cost of feeding a patient on a 'G' tube is less than \$10.00 a day, basically the same cost as what our meals costs, and again it is paid for by insurance, Medicare, or Medicaid.

"This is a really simple surgery with a good outlook and convalescence.

"When a patient is withdrawn from food or fluids, they do not die of starvation; they die from dehydration. The process can take anywhere from five to 21 days. There are a lot of symptoms that go along with this. One of the things, your lips become dry and parched, just like you do when you're dehydrated. Your lips become cracked, your tongue becomes swollen, and eventually it will kill you.

"You all remember Terri Schiavo. According to the nurses' depositions (the nurses in the hospice that took care of her), they not only when they pulled out her G tube (and she was on a G tube for almost 12 years; she wasn't dying; she had been living in that condition for 12 years and her parents wanted to take care of her), she was denied oral care. The nurses were not allowed to apply a wet rag and keep her lips moist. They were not allowed to

put Vaseline on her lips to keep them from drying and cracking.

"The biggest exception in withholding food and fluids is

when the patient is actively dying, and that is in the last 24 to 48 hours of that patient's life. What happens is that the body starts shutting down because of the illness. What's killing the patient in this case is their terminal illness. It's not the withholding of food and fluids.

"September 14, 2007 - the Vatican affirms obligation of feeding tubes. The administration of nutrition and hydration to people in the so-called "vegetative state" is morally obligatory.

"What's happened in the U.S. today with physician-assisted suicide and euthanasia? The American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine is the professional organization for doctors seeking certification in hospice and palliative care. They believe that the patient should be allowed to choose, and then they will support the patient in their choice. The worst part of this is that it creates an impression in the mindset of doctors that this is okay.

"What I'm going to encourage you all to do before you bring your loved one to a particular hospice is find out in writing what their position is. Find out what their ethics are. One of the ways you can do this is you can ask them directly for what material they have on food and fluids. They will probably have a brochure about that. The large publicly traded hospice organizations do; they have a brochure and talk about that. Read about that, and you can get a little insight on their stance on this."

For additional information, visit the Covenant Hospice website at www.chospice.com.

The Benediction was offered by **Rev. Robert B. Mussman**, retired minister with the United Methodist Church, and a longtime supporter of NKRTL.

From all of those who participated and sponsored the 34th Annual Celebration for Life, a special thank you is given to the staff of the Drawbridge Inn, who have been most gracious and accommodating to NKRTL.

NORTHERN KENTUCKY RIGHT TO LIFE'S ANNUAL NEWSPAPER AD

NKRTL has been collecting names in back of churches for over 30 years. However, Covington Bishop Foys last year barred NKRTL from collecting names in back of the Catholic churches.

This year, Bishop Foys and the Diocesan Pro-Life Commission have decided to "copy" NKRTL's annual project, by collecting names in October in the back of churches for the purpose of publishing their ad this January. In most churches, people were not told that names were being collected not for NKRTL's ad but for the copycat signature ad of the Diocese.

Although NKRTL is flattered that the Bishop has chosen to copy one of its 30-year projects, the Northern Kentucky area would be better served if Bishop Foys would copy the uncompromising principles of NKRTL, especially if he would publish in his ad the Catholic Church's teachings (1) that it is morally wrong to withdraw food and hydration from a non-dying patient; and (2) that the so-called "emergency contraception"/morning-after pill is an abortifacient which should not be administered to anyone, especially in Catholic hospitals, and then abandon his contrary policies. (See article on Page 2, enclosed.)

The Original Signature Ad of NKRTL Continues

Although only some are able to go to Washington, D.C. for the magnificent March for Life in January, we all can make a public statement against abortion by placing our name in the NKRTL newspaper ad, on this 35th anniversary of the infamous Supreme Court decision legalizing the killing of unborn children.

This ad will urge the passage of a Human Life Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, an amendment which will declare that all children, from the moment of fertilization, are persons entitled to the same protection against murder as the rest of us. Since copies are given to the President, each member of the U.S. Supreme Court, the six Kentucky members of the House of Representatives, and the two U.S. Senators from Kentucky, your name becomes your statement that abortion must be stopped and that after 35 years, you have not given up, and you will not give up the struggle to stop the slaughtering of innocent children.

Send a list of your names and your donation of a small sum of \$3.00 for each name or \$10.00 donation for a family (for families who would like to list the names of their children, but may be prohibited at the \$3.00 per name, we suggest simply \$10.00 donation for the entire family). **In order to cover the cost of the ad, those who are able to do so are encouraged to make a larger donation.**

In memory of the 45+ million American babies who have been destroyed in the last 35 years, please participate in this year's March for Life newspaper ad. **Beat the deadline: January 10, 2008. Please send your list of names and check payable to Northern Kentucky Right to Life, and mail to P.O. Box 1202, Covington, Kentucky, 41012.**

PRO-LIFE NEWSPAPER AD

NEEDS YOUR NAME!

NAMES

NAMES

(Photos by Mark Summe, student at Covington Catholic High School. Collage by Diana Javins .)

*To receive periodic news releases and information about upcoming events,
email us (nkyrtl@gmail.com) your email address.*

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