



DEFEND LIFE

Promoting the Culture of Life and Fighting the Culture of Death since 1987

CATHOLIC • PRO-LIFE • PRO-FAMILY Sept. – Oct. 2021, Vol. 32 No. 5 Circ. 4068

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Abp. Lori names LGBTQ+ Coordinator for Archdiocese

Archbishop William Lori has appointed Father Matthew Buening as the LGBTQ+ Coordinator for the Archdiocese of Baltimore, a newly created, official position under the Archdiocese's Institute of Evangelization.

Father Buening announced his appointment at the LEAD (LGBT Education and Affirming Diversity) Ministry monthly meeting, held via ZOOM August 8.

Buening's appointment came just a month after his becoming pastor of St. Matthew Church in Baltimore on July 1, replacing retiring Father Joseph Muth.

Both Father Buening and Edward Herrera, executive director for the Institute of Evangelization, were noncommittal when asked by *Defend Life* about the duties of the new LGBTQ+ Coordinator.

"Since it is a newly developed position, we are still in initial stages of defining specific duties and responsibilities at this time," Mr. Herrera emailed on August 20.

"We're still figuring out what I will be doing; we're still working on a job description and mission statement," Buening explained in an August 23 phone call.

LGBT groups, throughout the U.S. and the world, uniformly demand not merely acceptance, but

complete approval by the public of active lesbian and gay physical acts, as well as approval of bisexual and transgender activities.

The LGBT agenda and goals stand in direct contradiction to the teaching of the Catholic Church that lesbian and gay physical acts are gravely sinful.



Archbishop Lori has named Father Matt Buening as LGBTQ+ Coordinator for the Archdiocese.

Muth: LGBT activist

Father Buening became pastor of St. Matthew and Blessed Sacrament parishes after a lengthy battle between Archbishop Lori and Father Muth and his supporters over his retirement.

Muth, who was ordained in the Archdiocese of Baltimore in 1974 and has served in various Arch-

diocesan churches since then, has labored indefatigably for years to promote not just acceptance but downright approval of active homosexual and other LGBT behavior by both St. Matthew and the Catholic Church in general.

The priest was an untiring member of New Ways Ministry, a Maryland-based organization founded in 1977 to push for acceptance of active gay and lesbian Catholics within the Catholic Church.

The Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith condemned the group's positions on homosexuality in 1999.

Father Muth's pro-homosexual efforts met with payoff on a national scale in 2015, when *Newsweek.com* ran a hugely sympathetic article and videos about the LEAD Ministry, which Muth founded at St. Matthew.

The following year, the Baltimore Museum of Art hosted an exhibit featuring videos extolling Muth's efforts, through LEAD, to condone homosexual behavior.

Muth's supporters angry

In January 2020, Father Muth announced to his parishioners that he had asked Archbishop Lori to be allowed to remain a priest until he

See LGBTQ+, page 12

Pro-Trumper charged in Jan. 6 Capitol protest did Truth Tours

Freddie Klein's detractors charge him with writing strong anti-“abortion rights” sentiments on his Facebook and other social postings.

But Defend Lifers know for a fact: he didn't just talk the talk—he walked the walk.

In the summers of 2013 and 2014, the pro-Trumper, later arrested and charged for his alleged involvement with the January 6 Capitol protest, was a member of Defend Life's annual Face the Truth Tour core team.

As a core team member, during the grueling summer heat, Klein held graphic signs of aborted babies for five days, three stops a day, along roadways across Maryland.

“It was something I did for the unborn and their mothers—to show people the horror of abortion and the mental attitude of abortionists,” Klein explains.

“Women with unexpected pregnancies who have serious economic problems and other worries are sold abortion as an easy way out; but abortion leaves them devastated, and with nothing but a dead baby.”

Truth Tour core teams are made up mostly of young people in their teens or twenties, says Freddie.

“It's a good way for them to network and foster values, get themselves involved in pro-life activism,” he notes.

Since he was older (34-35) at the time, he took on a more responsible role.

“I made sure everyone was okay,” he explains; “I also talked to the police at the various stops—I was a police liaison and spokesperson for the core team.”



Freddie Klein (left) holds a sign at the Charles Town, West Virginia, stop on Defend Life's Face the Truth Tour in 2013.

Reflecting on his Truth Tour experiences, he says, “You tend to remember the bad reactions from people” because of their often crude language and behavior.

He recalls that motorists were about 50/50 for and against the pro-lifers' message, but that they got more positive than negative reactions from pedestrians.

“Of course, we had good optics; we're decent-looking people, so we made a good impression!” he concludes.

Liberal media slant

On March 4, Federico Guillermo Klein was arrested on eight charges connected with the January 6 riot at the U.S. Capitol, including a charge of assaulting a police officer using a dangerous weapon.

Because Klein's arrest was the first arrest of a Trump administration official in connection with the riot, the mainstream press singled him out for media attention.

“Klein's arrest is the most direct link yet between the Trump administration and the rioters,” noted the *Washington Post* (“State Department aide appointed by Trump stormed the Capitol, beat police with a riot shield, FBI says,” *Washington Post*, March 5, 2021).

The liberal media deliberately slanted their reporting of his arrest and background with comments disparaging his political views and his achievements.

The *New York Times*, for example, described Klein as having “a forgettable professional record in government and the military” (“Trump Official Arrested in Storm-

ing of Capitol Left Little Mark Before Riot,” New York Times, March 5, 2021).

Tour of duty in Iraq

Federico “Freddie” Klein, 42, grew up in a Washington, D.C., suburb.

Klein received his bachelor’s degree in political science from George Mason University in 2002.

He was a member of the university’s rugby football club and Alpha Phi Omega fraternity.

Freddie served in the Marine Corps Reserves from 2004 to 2012 as a combat engineer, reaching the rank of corporal.

He served a tour of duty in Iraq, when his unit was deployed for Operation Iraqi Freedom from February through September 2005.

Klein served as a legislative aide in Leesburg, Loudoun County, Va., from 2012-2015.

He has been active in political campaigns and conventions since at least 2008, serving as a campaign volunteer coordinator for various candidates including John McCain



Freddie Klein served in the Marine Corps Reserves, including a tour of duty in Iraq in 2005.



Federico “Freddie” Klein was on Defend Life’s Face the Truth core team in 2013 and 2014.

and Mitt Romney.

In 2015 he did volunteer work as a researcher for the Family Research Council.

Klein worked as a paid tech analyst in Trump’s 2016 presidential campaign.

When Trump took office, he was appointed a special assistant in the State Department’s Office of Brazilian and Southern Cone Affairs. He was later transferred to the department’s Freedom of Information Act office.

Klein held a top-secret security clearance since 2014—not unusual for military service members.

“Psychological warfare”

Klein was arrested and jailed on March 4.

“As far as jail goes, I was not treated that badly,” he told *Defend Life*; “but I was confined to a cell 23 hours a day, sometimes 24 hours a day.”

He termed this harsh style of detention toward himself and oth-

Men’s March to End Abortion set for Nov. 15

Pro-life men are gearing up for a Men’s March to End Abortion in Baltimore on November 15.

The march will coincide with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops’ annual fall meeting, scheduled for November 15-18.

The men will march from the Planned Parenthood of Maryland abortion center on Howard Street to a rally point outside the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel, where the bishops will be holding their meeting.

The November 15 march is the brainchild of pro-life activist priest Father Stephen Imbarrato and Catholic radio host Jim Havens, who hosts a weekday show, “The Simple Truth,” on Station of the Cross radio.

The two held their first Men’s March to End Abortion on June 12 in Washington, D.C.

There, hundreds of men marched in silent prayer from a late-term abortion facility to Lafayette Square, in front of the White House.

The marchers bore a large banner reading, “Let’s Stop Murdering Our Preborn Children.”

Imbarrato and Havens are asking laymen to wear business suits and ties, and the priests to wear their clerics at the November 15 march, as they did in June.

“If you dress sharp, you immediately give a higher reputation for your position; you establish credibility,” explains the priest.

For more information and updates, see www.MensMarch.com or visit www.DefendLife.org.

See **FREDDIE**, page 15

City of Baltimore cancels Church Militant's November 16 rally:

On August 5, the conservative Catholic organization Church Militant received some startling news from MECU Pavilion in Baltimore.

The Pavilion operators had been abruptly ordered, without warning, by the City of Baltimore to cancel Church Militant's prayer rally and conference, "Bishops: Enough is Enough," scheduled for November 16.

Church Militant had purposely chosen the location, on Pier 6 in Baltimore's Inner Harbor, because it is next to the Marriott Waterfront Hotel, where the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops will be holding their Fall General Assembly November 15-18.

The Pavilion can be seen from the windows of the conference room where the bishops will be meeting, says Church Militant president Michael Voris.

"Our prayer rally was meant to be a visible protest of the bishops' corruption, sex abuse cover-up and financial malfeasance," he explains.

After MECU Pavilion had contracted with the group to host the event, Church Militant had gone on to promote it publicly, lining up 16 speakers to appear at the rally.

"We received more than 2,000 reservations, with the expectation that it would reach full capacity," says Voris.

"Many attendees purchased plane tickets and made hotel arrangements. Our staff also spent many hours organizing and planning."

"Pose risk of violence"

A day after the cancellation, Voris phoned Baltimore City Solici-

tor James Shea, who had personally ordered the cancellation.

He spoke at length to Shea.

"Shea told me the event was cancelled because Church Militant and the event had been tied to the January 6 supposed insurrection in Washington, D.C., and we pose a risk and danger of violence," Voris recalls.



Baltimore City Solicitor James Shea has ordered the cancellation of Church Militant's fall rally.

"He elaborated that with the specific location by the harbor and the bishops' gathering hotel, it was deemed to be too susceptible to violence, and the City therefore was not allowing it."

Voris asked Shea why, when presented with claims that CM was essentially a domestic terrorist group, he didn't just pick up the phone and call him,

"His answer was, they don't do that; they investigate what's reported to them, and then simply make what they call a 'risk assessment.'"

Voris told Shea that not only does Church Militant have no record of violence: it also has a de-

monstrable record of non-violence.

In November 2018 his group led a coalition of conservative Catholic groups—including Defend Life—at the exact same location, to host the "Silence Stops Now" rally.

"That rally also coincided, on purpose, of course, with the bishops' annual meeting," he notes.

The ralliers, peacefully and without incident, protested the then-recently exposed homosexual predations by Cardinal Theodore McCarrick and the cover-up of his assaults by multiple high-ranking members of the U.S. hierarchy.

Speaking onstage at the 2018 rally was McCarrick's prime victim, James Grein.

Grein was among the speakers scheduled for this year's cancelled rally.

Shea "refused to answer with any specificity my direct inquiries about who was presenting claims to his office that Church Militant is a potentially dangerous group," says Voris.

He suspects that a complaint lodged by the bishops may have led to the cancellation.

Church Militant has been exposing the U.S. bishops' homosexual and financial corruption for years, and has been explicitly barred from their functions.

"I asked Shea directly, 'Did you get a communication from the U.S. bishops with this false information?'" says Voris. "His response: 'I can neither confirm nor deny that.'"

"The claim that we are tied to January 6 is utterly slanderous. Yet, it became the basis for a government agency, which may well have colluded with the U.S. bishops, even likely colluded with them, to cancel

CM charges bishops behind cancellation, demands reinstatement

a legal contract we had and deny us our First Amendment rights,” he concluded.

Demands reinstatement

On August 30, Voris, in his capacity as CEO of St. Michael’s Media, sent a “demand letter” to James Shea.

Demand letters are commonly the first step aggrieved parties turn to before taking legal action against the recipient.

“We are formally demanding that the prayer rally originally scheduled to take place at the MECU Pavilion on November 16, 2021 by St. Michael’s Media/Church Militant be reinstated,” the letter states.

“The reasons offered to cancel our event were a pretext and utterly without basis, resulting in violation of our First Amendment rights,” the letter alleges.

The right to peaceably assemble and protest is a cornerstone of our constitutional government, the letter continues.



Church Militant CEO Michael Voris calls the cancellation a First Amendment rights violation.



Church Militant’s rally was cancelled at the MECU Pavilion, above, next to the Marriott Waterfront Hotel, where the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops plan to hold their Fall General Assembly.

“Government may not violate those rights without a compelling government interest, using the least speech-restrictive option available.

“You have provided no such ‘compelling government interest’ here because the reason you offer—an alleged link to January 6—is utterly without basis and demonstrably false.”

The demand letter concludes: “If you stand by your original, baseless decision, or fail to reply, we will initiate proceedings against you personally, as well as the City of Baltimore, in whose name you spuriously acted to deny us our First Amendment rights.”

The letter gave September 3 as the deadline to respond.

Files complaint

No response having been received, on September 13, St. Michael’s Media filed a complaint in U.S. District Court for the District of Maryland.

The complaint accuses Baltimore City of violating St. Michael’s Media’s First Amendment rights to

freedom of speech, assembly and religion.

An emergency motion was also filed demanding that the city be forced to reinstate the November 16 rally at the MECU Pavilion.

“We believe the city—through City Solicitor James Shea, a Catholic who represents the U.S. bishops—illegally cancelled the rally as a favor to the bishops, his paying clients,” stated Voris.

Asked by *Defend Life* why he ordered the cancellation, City Solicitor Shea replied that he did so “because of the potential for significant disruption” due to “the characteristics of the location and the likely reaction to the planned program.”

Shea did not reply to a question on the City’s response to Voris’ demand letter.

He noted that Pier 6 is owned by the City of Baltimore.

According to the complaint, St. Michael’s Media entered into contractual arrangements with Royal Farms Arena, the contracting agency hired by the City of Baltimore to manage events at the MECU Pavilion.

Roe/Doe must go—but abortion must be ruled unconstitutional



By John Naughton

In October the Supreme Court will hear a challenge to a Mississippi law which bans abortion after 15 weeks of pregnancy.

This law is in direct conflict with the existing 1973 Supreme Court *Roe v. Wade* and *Doe v. Bolton* decisions, which decriminalized abortion through all 40 weeks of pregnancy.

Prior to those decisions, states had the power to enact laws restricting abortion, and they did.

Since 1973, several pro-abortion states have passed laws without abortion restrictions, anticipating that *Roe/Doe* could be overturned.

The Court's acceptance of the Mississippi challenge has led many pro-life organizations to file legal briefs petitioning the Court to overturn their 1973 decisions.

Overturning those decisions will free states to enact laws restricting abortion: but it will also free other states to pass laws permitting abortion.

Roe/Doe: legal fabrications

Prior to 1973, it was well-known that life begins at conception.

In 1871 the American Medical Association said that it is a "scientific fact that human life didn't begin at quickening, but rather at conception."

In 1933 Dr. Alan Guttmacher, president of Planned Parenthood, said, "This all seems so simple and

evident [that life begins at conception] that it is difficult to picture a time when it wasn't part of the common knowledge" (*Life in the Making: The Story of Human Procreation*, 1933).

In addition, the Law of Biogenesis—life from life—dictates that human beings only and always reproduce human beings: at no time do human beings conceive non-humans. They conceive human beings *only*, from the very beginning, when

**Prior to *Roe v. Wade*
it was accepted science
that life begins at
conception, but Justice
Harry Blackmun chose
to presume otherwise.**

all the physical traits—eye and hair color, physical stature, etc.—of the new human being are fixed.

Nevertheless, the author of *Roe v. Wade*, Justice Harry Blackmun, said, "We need not resolve the difficult question of when life begins. . . . the judiciary, at this point in the development of man's knowledge, is not in a position to speculate as to the answer."

He also said, "If this suggestion of personhood is established, the appellant's case, of course, collapses."

Blackmun certainly did have the duty to accept the science of the time that life begins at conception, and if there were any doubt, to presume life begins at conception.

He presumed otherwise, which was inhumane, as it declared that killing of preborn human persons

was legal and acceptable.

Since 1973 there have been many technological advances and findings further confirming the humanity of the preborn. The most well-known is the sonogram, which pictures the baby for all to see.

Being able to see the preborn has enabled physicians and surgeons to treat a variety of formerly fatal fetal pathologies, e.g. tumors, hiatal hernia, urinary tract blockages and coronary problems.

Some of these life-saving surgeries are done while the baby is in the womb, and others with the baby taken out of the womb and placed back in the womb after the procedure, to continue to grow until delivery at birth.

Non-life threatening conditions are also treated by in-utero surgery, e.g. spina bifida, for which in-utero surgery is the standard of care instead of neo-natal surgery.

In 1979 former abortionist Bernard Nathanson, who killed over 60,000 preborn and lobbied the Supreme Court for the *Roe/Doe* decisions but later became pro-life, said, "Modern technologies have convinced us beyond question the unborn child is another human being, another person, another member of the human community, indistinguishable from any of us."

Nathanson produced *The Silent Scream* video showing how the preborn tries to escape from the instruments of death and appears to scream.

Subsequently, it was established that the preborn can feel pain definitely by 20 weeks gestation, while some scientists say they feel pain

See ROE/DOE, page 15

Amicus brief backs Miss. appeal of abortion ban before SCOTUS

A conservative group has filed an amicus brief in connection with a major case set to be heard by the U.S. Supreme Court that could overturn *Roe v. Wade*, the 1973 decision legalizing abortion.

The Supreme Court in May agreed to hear, beginning in its October term, an appeal by the State of Mississippi to revive its abortion law, which bans abortions after 15 weeks of pregnancy.

After a Mississippi abortion facility had sued to block the 15-week ban, a federal judge and a federal appeals court had ruled against the State of Mississippi.

A ruling by the Supreme Court in the case is expected by June 2022.

***Roe* “built upon sand”**

The Conservative Legal Defense and Education Fund, a legal advocacy group with a politically conservative basis, filed its amicus brief in this case on July 29.

An amicus brief is a concise legal statement filed by someone who isn’t a party to the case, but which offers additional information or arguments that a court may want to consider before making its ruling.

The purpose of the CLDEF brief is “to undermine the legal assumptions Justice Harry Blackmun used to reach his strained and forced conclusion that state criminal anti-abortion laws were unconstitutional,” explains Robert Marshall.

Marshall, a former Virginia State Delegate and an author, was a major player in the preparation of the amicus brief.

The amicus brief petitioners urge the Supreme Court to overrule *Roe v. Wade* and *Planned Parent-*

hood of Southeastern Pennsylvania v. Casey “because each decision is fundamentally flawed.”

“*Roe* was fashioned from whole cloth,” the brief asserts: “The foundation of *Roe* is built upon sand in every key aspect.”

The brief details how *Roe* relied on misrepresentations about how common law has always viewed abortion as a “right.”



Former Virginia State Delegate Robert Marshall worked on the amicus brief filed July 29.

Blackmun cited the work of an abortion-advocate professor who claimed that the right to an abortion was “common law” as early as the 14th Century—but the brief shows that, in fact, abortion was a common law *crime* as early as 1327.

“Health of the mother”

The brief also delineates how *Roe* made flawed assumptions that understated the maternal risk from abortion.

Blackmun claimed that a State

can no longer claim “the health of the mother” as a justification for a State to criminalize abortion because abortion “is now relatively safe.”

He asserted that the mortality rates for lawful, early abortions “appear to be as low, or lower than the rates for normal childbirth.”

For this claim, he cited some highly questionable data.

In disputing this data, the brief quotes from Robert Marshall’s article, “Abortion, Women and Public Health: Getting the Whole Truth,” in the 2020 edition of *The Human Life Review*, in which Marshall documents serious flaws in Blackmun’s assumptions.

The majority of the studies cited by Blackmun were authorized by abortion advocate and Planned Parenthood advisor Christopher Tietze, the brief notes.

For his work in supporting abortion rights, the Planned Parenthood Federation of America gave Dr. Tietze its Margaret Sanger Award in 1973.

Justice Blackmun’s other source about U.S. maternal health statistics was the U.S. Public Health Service.

Marshall points out in the brief that “[f]or nearly a decade in the 1980s, the chief of the [U.S. Center for Disease Control’s] Abortion Surveillance Branch was Dr. David Grimes, who has been an abortionist for 40 years.”

State laws protected unborn

The brief also critiques *Roe* for erroneously arguing that State anti-abortion laws were not written to

See AMICUS, page 11



DEFEND LIFE

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Fighting the Culture of Death since 1987*

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*October 19, 2021 Anno Domini
Feast of Saint Isaac Jogues, Jean de Brébeuf and Companions*



Dear Friend of **DEFEND LIFE**,

We live in dark times. Here are some examples:

- The confusion and chaos coming from the Biden Administration
- That so many of our Catholic parishes are **CINO (Catholic In Name Only)**
- The fact that so many Catholics are afraid to go back to Church — you cannot receive **Holy Communion** remotely.
- The very questionable **Covid-19** vaccines which are being mandated in many cases for the military, civilians, students and employees in the private sector
- Exploding cost of living — gasoline (gas is approaching **\$5** in California)
- Skyrocketing numbers of abortions, escalating during the COVID

In spite of that, **DEFEND LIFE** continues to fight the good fight, but we need more volunteers to remain all-volunteer. This makes us different than most other pro-life groups.

Here are some of the volunteer areas where we need your help:

- Persons to spearhead a hospitality/networking evening on November 16 & 17 in conjunction with the U.S. Bishops' meeting in Baltimore on those days.
- A person to monitor my email
- A person to send **Mass Cards** and **Thank You** notes
- A person to oversee maintenance of our database. We have numerous volunteers to help this person.
- A person to help publicize our events to local media. We are already doing a good job with our fine postcards, emails, and phone calls but need help in the **Radio/TV** area
- Persons to arrange speaking venues in local parishes for outstanding speakers. Contact me, Jack Ames at **410-337-3721** or Jack@DefendLife.org if you can help.

Thinking Outside the Box

Way back in the Summer of 1975, I attended a weeklong Catholic family retreat at a former hunting lodge in Front Royal, Virginia. **Tom McFadden**, the founder of **Virginia Right to Life** had invited me to attend. It was there I met **Onalee McGraw**, her husband Bill, the late **Joe Wall** from Philadelphia. One year later, we did the same thing. The former hunting lodge had become a training camp for labor leaders from Latin America. It was owned by AFL-CIO, which was headed by **George Meany**, a devout Catholic.

The beginning of **Christendom College**, now **44** years old, took root that week. AFL-CIO later decided to sell this property which included several other humble buildings and **100** acres of land alongside the beautiful Shenandoah River. **Archbishop**

**CHRISTENDOM
COLLEGE**
FRONT ROYAL
VIRGINIA
DARE TO BE GREAT!

of **Washington Patrick O'Boyle** was very close to **Dr. Warren Carroll**, the founding president, a historian, and a convert who did so much for our beloved Catholic Church. The Catholic Church was then very much in shambles because of the phony implementation of Vatican II. When Archbishop O'Boyle learned that the AFL-CIO property was about to be sold, he told George Meany to take **ONLY 1 BID** for the property and to take it from Christendom College. That beautiful property was purchased for **\$250,000**, which was a lot of money then. Additional buildings were built, including a lovely chapel, now too small for the growing student body. A beautiful library was built as well. Most other buildings constructed were **nice but nothing to write home about.**



Several years ago, **Christendom president Timothy O'Donnell** decided to build a new chapel of **Cathedral proportions**. When I first learned of these plans, I thought to myself, **They are crazy; they will never be able to raise this huge sum of \$!**



But guess what, I was wrong, and Tim O'Donnell was right. The Cathedral's Gothic towers can be seen miles away as one approaches along **I-66**. It will be dedicated later this fall. In my opinion, its extraordinary beauty exceeds the beauty of all other chapels on Catholic Colleges across America, with the possible exception of Notre Dame's Sacred Heart Chapel.

Warren and Anne Carroll, Tom and Olivia McFadden and Bill and Onalee McGraw and so many others aided the groundwork to make such a dream a reality. So what is the lesson learned from this? **THINK BIG — THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX!**

Another Example of Thinking Big Outside the Box



Danny Thomas was a night club entertainer, a singer, and producer. In 1962, he founded Saint Jude's Children's Research Hospital in Memphis. Its mission was to provide **absolutely free treatment for children who had contracted cancer**. Thanks be to God, they have been doing it ever since! A great



example is **Randy and Andrea Terry** who moved their family from West Virginia to Memphis when their son Michael contracted cancer. He survived, along with tens of thousands of other children.

Just recently, Saint Jude's had a campaign to raise **\$200 million** more to continue their lifesaving efforts. The idea was to give donors of **\$100** or more a chance to circle the Earth **4** times. **Elon Musk**, founder of **Tesla and Space X**, the first commercial company to fly to outer space, donated **\$50 million** to pay for the flight, which was successfully completed in September. It was the first such flight where all of its passengers were civilians rather than Astronauts. It was known as **Inspiration 4**. The idea was to use the publicity associated with this event to raise funds to continue the mission of Saint Jude's. As of a recent report, **\$130 million has been raised so far!!!**



Long Live Christ Our King!

Jack Ames

Jack Ames, P.E., Director

Enclosure

Book Review

Clarity of vision from a blind human rights activist

By A. J. Bibliotecaria

During Defend Life's 2021 Face the Truth Tour, Chen Guangcheng spoke rivetingly¹ about his efforts to protect unborn babies, women, and families from death, sorrow, and destruction during the brutal implementation of so-called "family planning campaigns"—in reality, the cruel enforcement of China's one-child policy—in his native Shandong province, and the price he paid for it.

Read Chen's memoir, *The Barefoot Lawyer: A Blind Man's Fight for Justice and Freedom in China*, for more testimony from this extraordinarily courageous human rights activist.

It begins with an enthralling narration, alternating between the viewpoints of Cheng Guangcheng and his wife, Yuan Weijing.

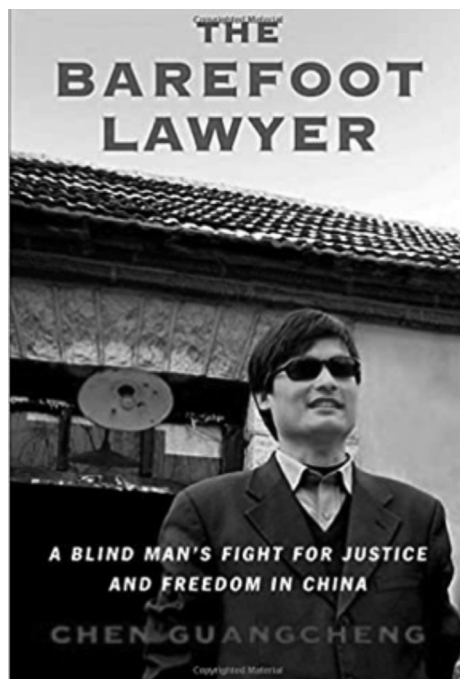
They document Chen's escape from house arrest, stunning and remarkable due to the enormous number of guards and officials monitoring Chen, his blindness, and widespread human and technological surveillance over Chen and the surrounding areas.

Following this, Chen reports on his childhood in rural China, including how he lost his sight due to illness in infancy, which he attributes indirectly to societal dysfunction caused by the Cultural Revolution.

Although blindness at this time and place usually severely restricted

available options, Chen did not let this stand in his way.

He obtained an education, overcoming serious obstacles, including prejudice, starvation, and learning to navigate life in new cities, away from family and friends and absent the comprehensive life-skills training and technologies from which



many blind persons in the contemporary United States benefit.

At university, Chen became aware that the rights of the blind were being violated and laws designed to assist them were not being followed.

He launched a campaign to redress one such problem—by law, blind persons were guaranteed access to rides on public transport free of charge, but this law was not being followed—and was successful.

This led Chen to informal study of the law and then to advocacy and

legal action for land reform, improved conditions for the poor, and finally, on behalf of families threatened by forced abortions.

All of this provoked the ire of officials in the Chinese Communist Party. Chen and his family were placed under house arrest, where they were continually maltreated and occasionally tortured.

Chen escaped this untenable situation, fleeing to the American Embassy in Beijing.

There, he negotiated with officials and arranged for passage for himself and his family to the United States, where he now lives and continues his efforts on behalf of human rights and the rule of law.

The Barefoot Lawyer has much to recommend it to Defend Life supporters, pro-life activists, and other readers:

Quality storytelling, literary value

Simply put, this book was difficult to put down.

To give but two examples: readers will be captivated and delighted by the chapters on Chen's free and often joyful childhood in the countryside.

They include anecdotes about his fascination with the natural world, remonstrations from his mother for his daredevil antics, and his ability from a very young age to understand and construct toys, tools and simple machines, including kites and even guns.

Chen's telling of his escape from house arrest rivals the writing you will find in any novel or thriller.

A profound understanding of the

¹Chen's talk is available at facebook.com/DefendLifeMarylandDCVirginia/videos/558517111971967/

disabled and the unborn as fully human, and of the rights of families to self-determination

One of the hindrances Chen faced was being treated as, and considered to be less capable (even a lesser person), due to his blindness (a widespread view of the blind and persons with other disabilities in his community).

One example was the resistance he faced from his wife's family to their marriage.

Describing his fight for families being persecuted for having "extra" children under China's one-child policy, Chen clearly shows government interference in family size or family planning to be entirely unjust and unacceptable.

A role model to follow

Many U.S. pro-lifers today feel deeply discouraged by a variety of contemporary circumstances, not least of these the pervasiveness of corruption and destructive ideologies throughout government at all levels and in many formerly trusted public and private institutions and professions.

However, if Chen Guangcheng could accomplish what he did in the face of blindness, torture, starvation, discrimination, and governmental and social systems far less suited than our own to the protection of human rights and the promulgation of positive change, can we not persevere, carry out, and succeed in each of our own much smaller tasks in our vastly easier situations?

A terrific conversation-starter

This is a great book to share with your friends, family members, and other associates who are not pro-life.

Its focus on human rights in general and its entirely non-religious

perspective may appeal to such individuals, who will no doubt find agreement with Chen's stances for the rights of the disabled and against the horrific government-committed atrocities he describes.

Chen's struggle against forced abortions, most especially his descriptions of the grief of the women and families so impacted, may provoke their further thought and reflection, and you may be able to use this to open a conversation about the rights of the unborn.

Verdict: Look to Chen's bravery, share this book with others, then redouble your own efforts on behalf of human dignity.

AMICUS, from page 7

defend the life of the preborn.

Blackmun never acknowledged that many State statutes clearly were written to protect the lives of the preborn.

Yet, the brief shows that one source cited seven times by Blackmun actually identifies 17 States that criminally punished the abortionist and which classified abortion either as manslaughter or second-degree murder.

Such statutes were plainly designed to protect the preborn as a legal person—yet, the brief declares, Blackmun apparently intentionally avoided the portions of this source's writings that would undermine his case for abortion.

"Bathroom bill" backlash

Robert "Bob" Marshall is no stranger to political and moral controversies.

A conservative Republican in the Virginia House of Delegates for 26

years, Bob was successfully targeted for defeat in the 2017 election by the transgender movement and their political allies.

Marshall had engendered their ire in large part due to his introduction of "the bathroom bill" (the Physical Privacy Act), which stipulated that men and women may use restrooms only according to the sex they were born with.

Restricting men to men's restrooms and women to women's restrooms should not be controversial, says Marshall—"But for persons who deny that there are fixed 'Laws of Nature and Nature's God,' apparently it is."

His Democratic opponent, Danica Roem, was born male, but began transitioning in 2012 to become a female, receiving hormone replacement therapy in 2013.

Support for Roem poured in, much of it coming from LGBTQ+ supporters and other out-of-state donors.

His top donor, Chris Abele, who gave \$320,000, was a Democrat Party politician from Milwaukee, Wis.

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund raised over \$200,000 for Roem.

Roem outspent Marshall 3-1. Receipts from cash and in-kind contributions for Roem totaled \$2.3 million (www.vpap.org/candidates/285913/finance_summary).

All of this was for a position that pays about \$31,000 a year, Marshall observes.



Justice Harry Blackmun's assumptions were arguably flawed in *Roe v. Wade*.

LGBTQ+, from page 1

was 75, but that Lori had ordered him to retire in September of that year, at age 72.

A month after his announcement, angry parishioners held a meeting at St. Matthew to launch a campaign opposing Lori's requirement dictum.

Father Muth's angry supporters continued to hold monthly "town hall" meetings opposing his retirement.

When they discovered that a *Defend Life* reporter was at the meeting, they ordered the reporter to leave the premises.

The September 2020 deadline passed, but Muth was still active as pastor at St. Matthew.

Defend Life learned that Archbishop Lori, after meeting with some of Muth's supporters, had



Despite his retirement, Father Muth is still active with LGBTQ+ matters.

agreed to postpone the priest's retirement until June 30, 2021.

Muth's angry supporters, however, were still dissatisfied with the June extension. They continued to hold monthly "town hall" meetings to air their grievances.

From the pulpit and elsewhere, the priest continued to encourage his supporters' opposition to his retirement.

Despite his retirement, Father Muth remains involved with LGBTQ activities.

Muth was present at the August 8 LEAD meeting. He reportedly told attendees that the University of Notre Dame has recognized an LGBTQ+ group for alumni, and that he will write them a letter of congratulation.

Worked with Courage

Father Buening has been involved with Courage, a ministry for people who struggle with same-sex attractions.

The Archdiocese of Baltimore lists Courage and Encourage ministries on its website, archbalt.org.

"Courage seeks to help persons with same-sex attractions *develop an interior life of chastity* and move beyond the confines of the homosexual to a more complete identity with Christ" (Italics added), according to the website.

A second ministry, Encourage, "is a ministry dedicated to the spiritual needs of parents, siblings, children and other relatives and friends of persons who have same-sex attractions (archbalt.org)."

Father Buening told *Defend Life* that he has been active with Courage.

"I've worked with Father James Farmer and other Courage chaplains, and have attended the monthly meetings" of Courage ministry

Our Readers Talk Back

Avoid ad hominem attacks

Editor:

Picked up *Defend Life* at Christ The King today. Have some constructive feedback on the lead article ["Openly gay judge convicts pro-lifer of assault; appeal filed"; Mar.-Apr. 2021].

Seems to me the implication of Judge Scurti's gayness would be seen by many as a cheap shot, and an unproven implication that his decision had something to do with him being gay.

I think we need to keep all reporting factual and avoid ad hominem attacks, and the reference to his sexual orientation detracted from the article.

Otherwise, great publication. Been a pro-lifer here in Baltimore for a long time. Just feel we have to keep the reporting factual to get our message heard.

Jerry T. Lawler Ph.D

Defend Life welcomes letters, both positive and critical. Send your letter to Defendlifeeditor@gmail.com.

members," he explained.

Father Buening was ordained a priest in 2003. He served as the full-time Catholic chaplain for Towson University from 2015 until he became pastor at St. Matthew.

Prior to that, he was an associate pastor at The Church of the Immaculate Conception in Towson, Md., and St. John's Catholic Church of Columbia, Md.

He was pastor of St. Paul's Church in Ellicott City, Md., for seven years.

In My Humble Opinion

Bishops fail to lead battle against immoral vaccine

By Janet Baker

A few weeks ago (as of the time of this writing) President Biden, playing the tin-horn dictator, demanded that all businesses employing at least 100 people coerce their staffs into taking the Covid vaccine under threat of hefty penalties.

That's right! The designated puppet of the "my body my choice" pro-abort cabal is attempting to arrogate to himself the control of all of our physical persons.

Of course this attempt hasn't a shred of constitutional support, but when so many people are ignorant of the Constitution and their moral status as human beings, the constitutional shortcomings may well mean nothing to them.

Already lawsuits are being filed against this anticipated diktat. One would think that the Church hierarchy would be at the forefront of the fight against this measure: not only is it a bald-faced assault upon human dignity, but the Covid vaccines—all of them created to date—have been created by exploiting the bodies of tiny murdered babies.

Verbal sophistries aside, anyone taking any of these shots would be cooperating with the murders of the babies whose cells are found in those concoctions.

However, as is so often the case these days, our prelates play the part of Judas and fall lockstep with Biden's bidding.

In fact, some have gone so far as to bar their flocks from the churches and sacraments unless they can prove that they've taken what Tay-

lor Marshall has coined the "cootie-jab."

The Vatican City will not allow visitors, tourists, etc., into its confines without proof of vaccination.

A bishop in the Philippines announced that only vaccinated people would be allowed in church.

The Archbishop of New Brunswick likewise is screening Catholics as they approach the churches for proof of vaccination, barring those without the cards.

The bishops who arm-twist their flocks into taking the Covid vaccines are violating Church teaching in a myriad of ways.

The bishop of Paterson (New Jersey) recently told his priests that if they didn't take the morally-tainted vaccine, that they could be removed from active ministry.

Closer to home, Cardinal Gregory forbade his priests from writing letters for religious exemptions from the cootie-jab because he wanted to maintain the façade of moral acceptability.

I'm sure there are more such examples, and their numbers will only increase.

I mentioned above "cooperating with murders." The Church recognizes nine ways in which one can cooperate with the sin of others and thus incur varying degrees of guilt

for that sin.

The nine ways are:

1. By counsel
2. By command
3. By consent
4. By provocation
5. By praise or flattery
6. By concealment
7. By partaking
8. By silence
9. By defense of the sinful action

With the exception of "silence" and "concealment," it is fairly obvious how many in the Church hierarchy are cooperating, in the ways listed above, with the murders of those babies whose cells were used to create the vaccines. For their own reasons, they are trying to embroil the Catholics in the pews into that same sort of cooperation—and sin.

There is some teaching about vaccines in general indicating that a Catholic *may* take a morally-tainted vaccine if *both* of these conditions are met:

1. The threat from the disease is pervasive and survival chances are minimal
2. There exists no alternative remedy.

Neither of these conditions holds true. For the average person who contracts Covid, his/her chance of survival is greater than 99%.

As for alternative treatments to Covid, they do exist and they are relatively inexpensive.

But unscrupulous people can't make too much profit from them

See VACCINE, page 14

Saintly priest, Msgr. John Brady, dies at age 92

By Clare McGrath-Merkle

The world lost a titan of a priest on September 9, 2021. Reverend Monsignor John B. Brady, Jr. passed away that day at the age 92.

A fourth-generation Washingtonian, he graduated from St. Ann's School, Georgetown Prep, and received a BS in physics from Georgetown University.

He then attended Saint Mary Seminary in Baltimore, and was ordained in 1955.

His assignments included serving as chaplain at Holy Cross Hospital and parochial vicar at the Shrine of the Most Blessed Sacrament in Washington, D.C.

He also served as pastor at a number of parishes in Southern Maryland.

Famously, he became Fulton Sheen's "minister-o-media," traveling with him in the last few years of his life in order to record his talks.

Monsignor Brady found his vocation as a priest as a Boy Scout. He once remarked that at each summer camp where he later served as chaplain, he interested one scout in a vocation to the priesthood.

It is not an exaggeration to say that all who had the blessing to know Monsignor Brady thought him saintly. He always made time for everyone. In the words of a former secretary, he spoke "the language of love," always in the spirit of charity.



Msgr. John Brady dons a Boy Scout uniform at a National Scouting Jamboree in 2005.

He was known for his devotion to the poor, and became an avid recycler to raise money. He was not above dumpster diving to find recycling materials he could sell to support various charities.

He was known to sleep sparingly and work long hours, often seen making needed repairs around his church and school campus, wearing a tool belt over threadbare clerical garb.

Monsignor Brady was an avid student of Maryland Catholic history, and co-wrote a small book called the *Plundering Time* with Timothy Riordan, about the first years of the Maryland Colony at St. Mary's City.

He was also an expert on the history of Marian apparitions and dearly loved to speak about the Blessed Mother.

VACCINE, from page 13

and that is why they are being poo-pooed. I speak of ivermectin and hydroxychloroquine. There are several accounts of families suing hospitals to have these medicines administered to their loved ones imprisoned therein.

There are also common sense preventions such as taking vitamins C, D3, and zinc. In short, there exist effective and moral alternatives to the morally-tainted vaccines. Why are these not being promoted?

Also note that even if those conditions held true, Catholics *may* take the vaccine: nowhere is it implied that they *must* take medicines that they believe are immoral and/or dangerous, as the present crop of Covid vaccines obviously are.

In this article, I won't address the innumerable harmful effects that the vaccines are wreaking upon many of those who ingested them; I simply haven't the time or space. The internet has much information on that.

The bishops who arm-twist their flocks into taking the Covid vaccines are violating Church teaching in a myriad of ways. We are *not* obliged to comply with them.

In his last months, he served at St. John's Parish in Clinton, Md.

Taking part in a mission out-of-state, he subsequently fell victim to the side effects of the COVID virus.

A detailed obituary for Monsignor Brady can be found at the Catholic Standard website at <https://cathstan.org/news/local/at-funeral-msgr-john-brady-father-of-catholic-scouting-honored-by-fellow-priests-and-scout-leaders>.

**FIGHT
ABORTION!**

Your very life depends on it.

ROE/DOE, from page 6

much earlier.

In 1993 Professor Peter Singer of Princeton University, who advocated optional parental infanticide up to 30 weeks after birth of the baby, said, “There is no doubt that from the first moments of its existence an embryo conceived from human sperm and eggs is a human being; and the same is true...even of an infant who is born... without a brain” (*Practical Ethics*, 2nd ed.).

Many constitutional scholars declare that *Roe v. Wade* does not have any rational basis and that the “right” to abort—a right that Blackmun said he “found” in the “penumbra” (shadow or implied right) of the Constitution—does not exist.

Given the Supreme Court’s legally flawed decision that ignores the humanity of the preborn, there is no doubt that *Roe/Doe* were wrongly decided and should be overturned.

Roe/Doe’s Legacy

Blackmun’s biased and constitutionally flawed decision has resulted in the killing of over 63 million preborn human beings, caused great pain and grief to millions of mothers, given rise to thousands of doctors willing to kill for money, and caused what may be irreparable moral harm to our society.

Life after Roe/Doe

Overturing *Roe/Doe* cannot undo these injustices and restore our country’s morality.

If the Court only overturns the *Roe/Doe* decisions in response to the Mississippi law, the country will be divided, with a plethora of abortion laws.

Some states will prohibit abortion with exceptions; others will prohibit with limitations, e.g., abortion prohibited after the first or second trimester, or after viability, or quickening, or a detectable heartbeat.

And some states will sanction the killing of these living human beings without any restrictions (e.g., Maryland).

There will be a minimal reduction in intensity as women residing in non-abortion states will travel to pro-abortion states.

Planned Parenthood will still be promoting abortion and particularly targeting black women for abortion.

A possible legal morass will be visited upon the U.S. It will be a challenge for the lower courts to untangle.

Find abortion unconstitutional

Life is a continuum: it begins when the sperm and ova unite, and we continue to grow and change until we die.

There is no magical point at which we become more alive, more human or more of a person. We are God’s marvelous creation from conception to eternity.

To prevent millions more grossly unjust preborn killings, millions more wounded mothers and further moral decline in our country, the Supreme Court must not only overturn the *Roe/Doe* decisions; they must also find abortion unconstitutional.

The Declaration of Independence states, “We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights; that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.”

The preborn are persons and they

FREDDIE, from page 3

ers arrested in connection with the January 6 riot “psychological warfare—meant to intimidate.”

At his arraignment on March 25, he pleaded not guilty to all counts.

Klein was granted a pretrial release on April 12, and was placed on home detention.

Under the conditions of his release, he is required to remain away from the Capitol grounds and notify the court if he plans to leave Virginia or Washington, D.C.

His defense attorney criticized the release conditions as being too strict, saying Klein couldn’t go for a jog or get gasoline without permission.

The pro-lifer turned down the offer of a plea deal on June 8. His attorney called the plea deal offer “not reasonable” (“Former Trump Official Federico Klein Offered Plea Deal in Capitol Riot Case,” *Newsweek*, June 20, 2021).

must be allowed to live and enjoy these “unalienable rights.”

Our country is on a precipice. Will we embrace life or death, good or evil? Will we sanction the murder of the preborn or protect their right to life?

Please pray that the Supreme Court justices will find abortion unconstitutional.

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