



February 10, 2019  
5th Sunday in Ordinary Time



# Saint Elizabeth Seton CATHOLIC CHURCH

Everyone is welcome... *where we're alive in the Spirit!* Todos son bienvenidos... *estamos vivos en el Espíritu!*



## A WORD ON HUMAN DIGNITY Our United Catholic Voices...

Famed American children's poet, Dr. Seuss, reminds us in his famous work, **Horton Hears a Who**, that "A person is a person, no matter how small. Of course, this theme of the dignity of the Human Person is sprayed throughout the pages of the New Testament and enforced in the very words of Jesus who himself identifies with the "least of these." **Keep reading on page 3...**



### Altar Flowers this Weekend

With gratitude, we'd like to thank Juliana & Paul Kierstein for donating the Altar Flowers.



### Offertory 1/26-1/27

Offertory \$17,499  
Attendance En: 1,916 Sp: 600  
Envelopes: 420

## Contribution Statements for Taxes



We have already mailed parishioner contribution statements for tax purposes. If you have not yet received your statement, you may stop by the parish office for a print-out. Thank you!

*"Remember that the happiest people are not those getting more, but those giving more..."*

# MASS INTENTIONS

Sun, Feb 10th	<b>7:30 am</b> Anna Davis (D) <b>9 am</b> Alvera & Richard B. Martin Sr. (D) <b>11 am</b> Herve Gosselin (L)
Mon, Feb 11th	<b>8 am</b> Jim Belisle (D)
Tues, Feb 12th	<b>8 am</b> Victor Pinate (D)
Wed, Feb 13th	<b>8 am</b> Daniel Garcia (D)
Thur, Feb 14th	<b>8 am</b> The Mahoney Clark Families (D)
Fri, Feb 15th	<b>8 am</b> St. Elizabeth Seton Parish Families
Sat, Feb 16th	<b>8 am</b> Rebecca Rubio (L) <b>4:30 pm</b> Kenneth Evans (D) <b>6:30 pm</b> Isolde Velazco & Pedro Matheus (D)

**Prayer Requests:** We are here to pray for you 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Please call 239-455-3900 ext. 301.

## MASS SCHEDULE

Daily Liturgy (Mon-Sat) 8:00 am

**December-April Season**

Saturday Vigil 4:30 pm  
Saturday Spanish Mass 6:30 pm  
Sunday 7:30, 9:00, 11:00 am

**Reconciliation Saturday**

Saturdays after the 8:00 am Mass and 3:00 pm in English  
5:45 pm in Spanish

We are pleased to announce the Parish Office will be accepting Mass intentions for 2019. We ask that all requests be made in person. Come by the Parish Office any time Mon-Fri, between 9:00am and 4:00pm.

*Events are now listed on Page 9*

# All are welcome!

## *We're alive in the spirit!*

### Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for February 2019

**Human Trafficking** – Human Trafficking. For a generous welcome of the victims of human trafficking, of enforced prostitution, and of violence.



### Knights of Columbus

Meet 2nd Monday of the month at 6:30 pm.  
KOC Hall @ 6120 Golden Gate Pkwy.

Brad Donnelly, GK (239-784-1727)  
Aaron Hopkins, DGK (440-488-9012)

Rev Casey Jones Administrator  
E: fathercasey@stelizabethseton.org

Fr Luis H. Pacheco Parochial Vicar  
E: frluis@stelizabethseton.org  
(239) 455-3900 x207 | Spanish Ministry  
Diacono Roberto Landron

Carl Granieri Music Ministry  
E: musicminister@stelizabethseton.org

Operations Manager Jonathon Harhen x206  
jharhen@stelizabethseton.org  
Office Assistant Pamela Garcia x201  
pgarcia@stelizabethseton.org  
Finance Assistant Veronica Lewis x205  
Communications Damian Hanley x204  
info@stelizabethseton.org

Faith Formation  
Dir. of Religious Ed x302  
Héctor Salazar hsalazar@stelizabethseton.org  
Myriam Briceño x208  
Claudia Herrera x303

Church Location  
5225 Golden Gate Pkwy, Naples, FL 34116

Mailing Address & Office Location  
5260 28th Ave SW, Naples, FL 34116  
**Office Hours:** Mon-Fri | 9 am - 4 pm  
**Website:** www.stelizabethseton.org  
**Phone:** (239) 455-3900  
**Fax:** (239) 455-6895  
**Prayer Line:** (239) 455-3900 x301

SES School Information  
www.saintelizabethseton.com

# A WORD ON HUMAN DIGNITY

**(continued)** It does not require a reading of the scriptures to understand that all persons have a dignity, value and worth. As I was once privileged to hear with my own ears the words of St. John Paul II: "The words 'you shall not kill' were engraved on the tablets of the Covenant – on the stone tablets of the Law. But, even before that, this law was engraved on the human heart, in the sanctuary of every individual's conscience." Friends, it is sad to see legislation pass in these United States that contradict the dignity of the human person and the dictates of a well-formed human conscience. Legislation in the state of New York now allows for the termination of the life of an unborn child right up until the moment the child exits the womb in all trimesters and months of pregnancy. Further, the so-called "Reproductive Health Act" fails even to protect the life of a child born as a result of a failed abortion. This legislation is egregious, and should outrage us all. I would like to share the statement of our own Bishop, along with the statement of the Bishop of Albany and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops committee on Pro-life activities:

## **From Bishop Dewane:**

Let us be reminded that all Life begins at the moment of Conception, which for Catholics is not in dispute despite any new laws such as the recent law passed in New York State and introduced in the Virginia State Legislature.

Regarding abortion, the Catechism of the Catholic Church states: "Human life must be respected and protected absolutely from the moment of conception. From the first moment of his existence, a human being must be recognized as having the rights of a person - among which is the inviolable right of every innocent being to life. Since the first century the Church has affirmed the moral evil of every procured abortion. This teaching has not changed and remains unchangeable. Direct abortion, that is to say, abortion willed either as an end or a means, is gravely contrary to the moral law." (2270-2271)

This should remind us that the killing of an innocent child through abortion is abhorrent. It is natural to want to speak out about such egregiousness, but first all are called to pray for an end to the scourge that is abortion. Pray also that our legislators and judges at the state and national levels stop celebrating laws that will end the life of a child.

If you disagree with laws such as the one recently passed in New York State, please write to your state and federal politicians to share your thoughts, disagreement and disgust on this critical issue. Meaningful change pertaining to this matter will not come until all stand together to give a voice to the voiceless, the vulnerable unborn children who in some places can now potentially face death up until the moment of their birth.

+ Frank J. Dewane

Bishop of the Diocese of Venice in Florida

## **From Archbishop Joseph F. Naumann of Kansas City, KS and Chairman of the U.S. Bishops' Committee on Pro-Life Activities:**

Abortion has always been built on a lie. Today, the lie is switching from 'abortion is a choice' to 'abortion is healthcare.' A law recently passed in New York not only legalizes abortion essentially for any reason through all nine months of pregnancy but removes any protection for children born alive after abortion. A similar bill was proposed in Virginia along with several other states, all in the name of women's health.

This legislation is evil, pure and simple. And it shocks the conscience to see such evil legislation greeted with raucous cheers and standing ovations. Most grieving to our Lord of Life is that those who advocate for abortion put their eternal souls in jeopardy.

It is sickeningly dishonest to claim that women's lives or health depend on intentionally killing their children. This is especially true for late-term abortion, which always involves the purposeful destruction of a child which could have been born alive, with much less risk to the mother, had they both received real healthcare.

Now is the time for all Catholics—bishops, priests, and laity—to fight for the unborn with renewed vigor. We must educate family, friends, legislators, and fellow citizens about how it is never necessary to intentionally kill unborn children in order to save their

**Continued on page 8**

## THIS WEEK'S READINGS

**Lectionary: 75**

**Reading IS 6:1-2A, 3-8**

**RSP PS 138:1-2, 2-3, 4-5, 7-8**

**Reading 1 COR 15:1-11**

**Gospel LK 5:1-11**



## PRAY THE ROSARY

Monday through Saturday 7:25 am

Every Saturday 5:45 pm in Spanish

Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal Novena

*Every Monday before the 8:00 am Mass*

†Adoration†

*Monday thru Friday 9:00 am 2:30 pm*

Divine Mercy Chaplet

*Every Tuesday and Friday after the 8:00 am Mass*

St. Jude Novena

*Every Wednesday after the 8:00 am Mass*

Litany of the Sacred Heart

*Every Friday before the 8:00 am Mass*

Divine Mercy Chaplet w/Mysteries of the Rosary

*Every Third Saturday after the 8:00 am Mass*





## KNIGHTS NEWS

### BINGO THIS WEDNESDAY

Bingo Night is in the Church Bulletin for Wednesday February 13, 2019 from 6-8 pm.

### Lenten Fish Fry Nights

March 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th,  
Apr 5th, 12th

### Eucharistic Adoration

The Knights of Columbus are holding an Eucharistic Adoration Hour every 3rd Wednesday evening 7-8pm in the Adoration Chapel. This is open to all Knights and to all men of the parish.



## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The Little Flower Rosary Makers** ministry is in honor of St. Thérèse of Lisieux. We would like to find and/or teach others to make rosaries, so that we may distribute them to the homebound, visitors, our children, and all those who need them. We meet Tuesdays at 10:30 am in the St. Juan Diego room.

St. Elizabeth Seton Catholic Church has begun the **Our Lady, Undoer of Knots knitting/crocheting Ministry**. We hope to utilize your talent and time to create baby items, Prayer Shawls, and Cancer caps. This ministry will coordinate and work with the Christian Service Ministry in requests and deliveries of the items. If you are interested, please call the office. Our group meets on Tuesdays at 9am.



## St. Elizabeth Seton Knights of Columbus Presents 2019 ST. PATRICK & ST. JOSEPH DINNER DANCE

March 16th, 2019 Reception at 5:30 pm, Buffet Dinner at 7:00 pm

**Vineyards Country Club**

400 Vineyards Blvd, Naples, FL 34119

\$75 Tax Deductible Donation Each Ticket

### EVENT DETAILS

Social Hour from 5:30pm with silent auction items available in the cocktail area.

Dinner will start at 7pm in the main dining room with live, world renowned entertainment. Proceeds from this year's event will benefit Community Pregnancy Clinic and the purchase of a new ultrasound to aid in their heroic work of continuing to save babies from abortion.

For more info, contact ANY of the Knights of Columbus at [knightsofcolumbus4357@gmail.com](mailto:knightsofcolumbus4357@gmail.com) For sponsorship or donation opportunities, please contact committee chair:

**Christian Davis PGK**

(239) 370-1408 | [cdavis3202@gmail.com](mailto:cdavis3202@gmail.com)

### Memorialize your loved ones with Easter Lilies!

Help adorn our church with Easter lilies. This Easter, memorialize your loved ones with a special dedication insert in our church bulletin. Please help us purchase the St. Elizabeth Seton Church Easter Lilies and we will list the name of your loved one and your name in our 2019 Easter Lily Memorial!



## EASTER LILIES!



# WE NEED LITURGICAL MINISTERS!

Attention all Lectors, EMHC, EMHC home bound, Sacristans, Altar Servers, & Ushers see below for mandatory meetings. For your convenience, there are morning and evening meetings. If you are interested in joining one of these ministries please attend, in particular, we are in great need of Ushers.

### Lectors meeting (Church)

Tuesday 02/12/19 – 6:00 pm

Wednesday 02/13/19 – 11:30 am

### Ushers meeting (Church)

Tuesday 02/19/19 – 9:00 am

Wednesday 02/20/19 – 6:00 pm



# YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY

The time has come to answer the call. ALL young adults (ages 19 to 30ish) are encourage to make a difference in the community by participating in St Elizabeth Seton Young Adult group. Come and love the Lord with others that desire a close relationship with God. Contact the Faith Formation Office to get more information and sign up. **Contact Hector at [hsalazar@stelizabethseton.org](mailto:hsalazar@stelizabethseton.org)**



## SACRAMENTS

### Marriages

Arrangements must be made six months in advance by calling the Parish Office.

### Baptisms

Please call the Parish Office for further information.

### Prayer Requests

We are here to pray for you 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Please call 239-455-3900 ext. 301.



## THE CATHOLIC FAITH APPEAL

Goal **\$204,000**  
Pledged **\$229,733**  
Collected **\$229,003**

*With joy and gratitude, we thank everyone who has committed to our CFA!*



## OUT AND ABOUT THE DIOCESE

**2019 Women's Conference** - Attention women of all ages! Please mark your calendars for this year's Diocese of Venice Women's Conference! We are blessed to offer the exciting opportunity to listen to speakers such as radio-host Jennifer Fulwiler, popular speaker and former model Leah Darrow, and Mother foundress of the Servents of the Pierced Hearts of Jesus and Mary, Mother Adela Galindo! This year's event will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Saturday, February 16, at Bishop Verot Catholic High School, 5598 Sunrise Drive, Fort Myers. Cost in advance is \$20 (pre-registration online), students \$5 pre-registration. Cost at the door is \$30, and \$10 for students. Come receive your blessing! To register, please visit <https://dioceseofvenice.regfox.com/2019-womens-conference>.

**Mass in Appreciation of Volunteers** In appreciation of the volunteers of the Diocese of Venice, Bishop Frank J. Dewane invites all those who donate their time and talent to a Mass at 11:00 a.m. Saturday, February 23, at Our Lady of Light Parish, 19680 Cypress View Drive, Fort Myers. The Mass is an opportunity for all of us to extend gratitude and appreciation for those who generously give of themselves to the Church. All priests, deacons and the faithful are invited to participate in a celebration of the active and concrete stewardship of our laity. A lunch will follow the Mass in the Parish Hall. There is no cost to attend; however registration is required to plan for lunch. To register please visit <https://dioceseofvenice.regfox.com/mass-in-appreciation-of-volunteers>, email [ardy@dioceseofvenice.org](mailto:ardy@dioceseofvenice.org) or call Gail Ardy at 941-484-9543.

# ESTA SEMANA EN LA IGLESIA

**Lunes, 11 de Febrero**  
7pm hombres de Emaús (PC)

**Martes 12 de Febrero**  
7 pm RICA (JD)  
7 pm clase de guitarra (C)

**Miércoles, 13 de Febrero**  
6:30 pm Practica del Coro (C)  
7 pm clase de biblia (JD)

**Sábado, 16 de Febrero**  
5:30 pm Confesiones (C)  
6:30 pm Misa (C)

C - Iglesia	CC - Capilla de Niños
FF - Formación de Fe	JD- Juan Diego Room
SG - Gimnasio	MR - Cuarto de Conferencia
SC - Salón Parroquial	PC - Centro Parroquial



# CLASE DE BIBLIA PARA ADULTOS

**Los Miercoles** de 7:00 - 9:00 pm (JD)

**Profesor:** Padre Luis H. Pacheco

# HORARIO DE MISAS

Misa diaria 8 am (Ing)  
Lunes a Sábado

Sabado 4:30pm (Ing)  
6:30pm (Esp)

Domingo 7, 9, 11am (Ing)

# UNA CUESTIÓN DE DERECHOS CIVILES

Amigos, esta es una cuestión de derechos civiles. Como Iglesia de Cristo, siempre nos solidarizamos con los pobres, marginados y oprimidos. Si bien tener una ética de vida consistente significa más que solo ser anti-aborto y si bien sabemos que debemos continuar luchando por el cuidado de la salud de las madres, proporcionar una mejor comunidad para los niños que nacen en la pobreza y brindar un cuidado adecuado a los niños en el sistema de acogida de adopción, debemos oponernos a esta ley atroz que debilita la verdad sobre la persona humana, oprime aún más a las mujeres y deja a las personas heridas a su paso. Como dijo recientemente el Papa Francisco sobre el aborto humano: “Es un asesinato en gran número, con el respaldo de los Estados, es un problema grave que debilita los cimientos de la construcción de la justicia, comprometiendo la solución adecuada de cualquier otro problema humano y social”. Nos unimos como Iglesia para ser la voz de los que no tienen voz. ¡Defendamos la vida!

## DECLARACION DEL OBISPO FRANK J. DEWANE EN RESPUESTA A LA LEY “ABORTO SIN LIMITE” DEL ESTADO DE NUEVA YORK.

Recordemos que toda vida comienza en el momento de la Concepción, la cual para los Católicos no está en disputa a pesar de las nuevas leyes pasadas en el Estado de Nueva York e introducidas en la legislatura del Estado de Virginia.

En cuanto al aborto, el Catecismo de la Iglesia Católica dice: “la vida humana debe ser respetada y protegida absolutamente desde el momento de la concepción. Desde el primer momento de su existencia, un ser humano debe ser reconocido con los derechos de una persona, entre ellos, el derecho inviolable de todo ser humano de vivir. Desde el primer siglo, la Iglesia ha afirmado el mal moral y el hecho diabólico de todo aquel que procure un aborto. Esta enseñanza no ha cambiado ni cambiará. El aborto directo, es decir, el aborto deseado y ejecutado como fin y como medio, es gravemente contrario a la ley moral.

Esto debe recordarnos que el asesinato de un niño inocente a través del aborto es una aberración. Es natural el querer hablar de tan atroz hecho, pero primero estamos llamados a rezar para ponerle fin al flagelo del aborto. Recen para que los legisladores y jueces a nivel estatal y nacional dejen de celebrar leyes que terminaran con la vida de un niño.

Si está en desacuerdo con las leyes como la aprobada en el Estado de Nueva York, por favor, escríbales a sus representantes políticos estatales y federales para compartir sus pensamientos, su molestia y disgusto con este tema crítico. Cambios significativos en este asunto, no se harán hasta que todos unidos demos voz a los que no tienen voz, los niños vulnerables no nacidos quienes en algunos lugares pueden potencialmente enfrentar la muerte hasta incluso en el momento de su nacimiento.

Frank J. Dewane  
Obispo de la Diócesis de Venice en Florida

## Carta del Reverendo Edward B. Scharfenberger, obispo de Albany, al Gobernador Cuomo de Nueva York:

Estimado Gobernador Cuomo

Aunque en su reciente discurso sobre el estado del Estado usted citó su fe católica y dijo que debíamos “estar de pie con el Papa Francisco”, su defensa de la legislación sobre aborto extremo es completamente contraria a las enseñanzas de nuestro Papa y de nuestra iglesia. Una vez que la verdad se separa de la ficción y la gente llega a darse cuenta del impacto del proyecto de ley, se van a sorprender profundamente. En ese momento, sin embargo, puede ser demasiado tarde para salvar las innumerables vidas que se perderán o las innumerables mujeres arrepentidas de por vida.

La denominada ley de salud reproductiva (RHA) expandirá el aborto bajo las pretensiones



de elección y progreso, lo que, de hecho, hará poco para mejorar. Al mismo tiempo, esta legislación amenaza con romper la comunión entre la fe católica y los que apoyan a la RHA, aun cuando profesan seguir a la iglesia, algo que me preocupa enormemente como pastor.

Contrariamente a lo que dicen sus proponentes, la RHA va mucho más allá de Roe contra Wade en su extremismo agresivo. Conceder permiso a no-médicos para realizar abortos no hace nada para promover la seguridad y la salud de las mujeres. Condonar abortos forzados o involuntarios mediante la derogación de sanciones penales incluso en los casos en que un perpetrador pretenda hacer que su pareja se "desembaraze" a través de un acto de violencia física, no representa ningún tipo de progreso en la elección, la seguridad o la salud de las mujeres. La eliminación de la protección de un bebé nacido accidentalmente con vida durante un aborto es una gran crueldad, algo que la mayoría de la gente de conciencia consideraría inhumana incluso para un perro o un gato. Finalmente, permitir abortos a largo plazo no es nada menos que una licencia para matar a un niño pre-nacido a voluntad.

Es muy difícil entender cómo puede alinearse con el Papa Francisco y abogar tan vehementemente por esa legislación profundamente destructiva.

Me pregunto cómo se puede ver como "progreso" haber pasado de una sociedad que trabaja para hacer el aborto "raro" a uno que insta a las mujeres a "gritar su aborto" como algunos defensores de este proyecto de ley anuncian audazmente.

¿Cómo es progreso el ignorar el daño que esto hará, no sólo a los infantes inocentes, nacidos y no nacidos, sino a sus madres? ¿La angustia de tantas mujeres de Nueva York que están dolidas por sus decisiones de abortar, no es importante? ¿Alguien las está escuchando? ¿Cómo es realmente "favorable a la elección" una ley, que pretende garantizar la elección, se mueve a expandir sólo una opción para las mujeres?

Si el aborto se considera un derecho fundamental en el estado de Nueva York, ¿seguirá siendo capaz el estado de emitir licencias a enfermeras o médicos pro-vida? ¿Se certificarán los establecimientos de salud que no proporcionen abortos? ¿Permitirá la ley que se dé incluso un dólar a los servicios de maternidad sin ofrecer a las mujeres la "elección" del aborto? Estas son preguntas sin respuesta, pero me estremece el pensar en las consecuencias que esta ley causará. Usted ya ha pronunciado duras amenazas a los pro-vida, quienes no tienen derecho en nuestro estado. Ahora está usted demostrando que quiere escribir su advertencia en la ley. ¿Ser Pro-vida un día será un crimen de odio en el estado de Nueva York?

Nuestros jóvenes, especialmente, que han visto sus sonogramas y que siguen los descubrimientos que la ciencia han hecho, conocen las mentiras y la desesperación que los defensores de tal legislación peligrosa y de muerte están promulgando, incluso ciega o involuntariamente.

Renunciar a la vida no es excusa para nosotros como personas responsables y compasivas. Al hacerlo, eludimos el desafío de acompañar a las mujeres y a las familias....

Sigue leyendo en: <http://www.stelizabethseton.org/prolife-esp/>

# LLAMADOS A SERVIR

Donde puedas invertir tus dones, hazlo y ganarás un tesoro en el Cielo. Si quieres estar más cerca de Dios, aquí tienes los diferentes ministerios donde puedes invertir tus talentos, tus dones y tu tiempo.

Coordinador General de la Comunidad Hispana **Padre Luis H. Pacheco**  
239-455-3900 ext. 207

Ministros Extraordinarios de la Eucaristía  
**Trinidad Loyola 239-961-6574**  
**Eba Loyola 239-961-6573**

Ministerio de Música de Emaús  
**Francisco Castillo 239-601-6358**

Ministerio de Ujieres  
**Miguel Martínez 239-821-5891**

Ministerio del Rosario  
**Vicente Saavedra**  
**Norma Flores 239-784-3081**

Ministerio del Grupo de Oración  
**Jesus Delgado 239-784-5503**

Ministerio de Emaús Hombres  
**Alonso Romero 239-384-0043**  
**Alejandro Santiago 239-307-9261**

Ministerio de Emaús Mujeres  
**Silvia Ortiz 239-777-1889**  
**Rosalba DeLeon 239-384-1996**

## NECESITA ORNAMENTOS

St. Elizabeth Seton necesita nuevos ornamentos para la celebración de la Misa y también un velo humeral y una capa para usar en la Adoración eucarística y en la bendición, así como en varios servicios litúrgicos además de la misa. Si estuviera interesado en honrar a un ser querido Con una donación conmemorativa de estas inversiones, comuníquese con la oficina parroquial. La donación para un conjunto de ornamentos para la Misa o la Capa es de \$ 400 y para el velo humeral es de \$ 200.

## EL FONDO DE MIGRANTES & LA FUNDACIÓN PARA EL CUIDADO DE LOS INMIGRANTES

¿Sabía usted que Migrant Endowment & Foundation for the Care of the Migrant Poor es una fuente de fondos proporcionados por la Diócesis de Venice para proporcionar asistencia y aclimatación a las comunidades de migrantes en nuestra Diócesis?





# A PRO-LIFE CALL TO ACTION CONTINUED

mothers. Local action is especially important. Though ending Roe v. Wade is a central goal of the pro-life movement, if the decision were overturned, only eleven states would immediately ban abortion; the other thirty-nine states would still allow it.

Urge Catholics, and thoughtful Americans of all religions or none at all to advocate for local change. Sign up for your State Catholic Conference or diocesan pro-life advocacy network, which can help you communicate to elected officials. Or seek out state and local pro-life groups, including parish respect life groups, that are making a difference at the state level.

Though we live in very dark days, we know that the Lord has already triumphed over death. But we must use this time on earth to be His hands and feet. This means each of us rededicating ourselves to prayer, and fighting for the most vulnerable among us, especially unborn children and their mothers.

## And from Most Rev. Edward B. Scharfenberger, Bishop of Albany:

Dear Governor Cuomo,

Although in your recent State of the State address you cited your Catholic faith and said we should "stand with Pope Francis," your advocacy of extreme abortion legislation is completely contrary to the teachings of our pope and our Church. Once truth is separated from fiction and people come to realize the impact of the bill, they will be shocked to their core. By that time, however, it may be too late to save the countless lives that will be lost or spare countless women lifelong regret.

The so-called Reproductive Health Act (RHA) will expand abortion under the pretenses of choice and progress, which, in fact, it will do little to enhance. At the same time, this legislation threatens to rupture the communion between the Catholic faith and those who support the RHA even while professing to follow the Church, something that troubles me greatly as a pastor.

Contrary to what its proponents say, the RHA goes far beyond Roe vs. Wade in its aggressive extremism. Granting non-doctors permission to perform abortions does nothing to advance the security and health of women. Condoning coerced or involuntary abortions by repealing criminal sanctions even in cases where a perpetrator seeks to make his partner "un-pregnant" through an act of physical violence does not represent any kind of progress in the choice, safety or health of women. Removing protection for an infant accidentally born alive during an abortion is abject cruelty, something most people of conscience would deem inhumane for even a dog or cat. Finally, allowing late-term abortions is nothing less than a license to kill a pre-born child at will.

It is very difficult to understand how you can align yourself with Pope Francis and so vehemently advocate such profoundly destructive legislation.

I find myself wondering how it can be viewed as "progress" to have gone from a society working to make abortion "rare" to one that urges women to "shout your abortion" as some advocates of this bill boldly announce.

How is it progress to ignore the harm that this will do, not only to innocent infants, born and unborn, but to their mothers? Does the heartache of so many New York women who have been pained by their abortion decisions matter? Is anyone listening to them? How is it really "pro-choice" when a law, which claims to guarantee choice, moves to expand only one option for women?

If abortion is deemed a fundamental right in New York State, will the State then still be able to issue licenses to pro-life nurses or physicians? Will health facilities which do not provide abortions be certified? Will the law allow that even one dollar be given to maternity services without offering women the "choice" of abortion? These are unanswered questions, but I shudder to think of the consequences this law will wreak. You have already uttered harsh threats about the welcome you think pro-lifers are not entitled to in our state. Now you are demonstrating that you mean to write your warning into law. Will being pro-life one day be a hate crime in the State of New York?

Our young people especially, who have seen their sonograms and who follow the discoveries the sciences have made, know the lies and the despair that proponents of such dangerous and death-dealing legislation are promulgating, even if blindly or unwittingly.

Giving up on life is no excuse for us as a responsible and compassionate people. In so doing, we evade the challenge of accompanying women and the families they are trying to nurture on the long journey. They deserve our courageous and ongoing support in creating conditions under which they will be free to bear and provide for their children.

As a society, we can and must do better. The teaching and intuition of our common faith readies us to help. It is an essential part of our mission to support the lives of all, especially the voiceless, the most vulnerable and marginalized, as Pope Francis always reminds us to do.

Let's not bequeath to our children a culture of death, but together build a more humane society for the lives of all of our fellow citizens.

Mr. Cuomo, do not build this Death Star.

Sincerely yours,

Most Rev. Edward B. Scharfenberger Bishop of Albany

**Friends, this is a civil rights issue.** As the Church of Christ, we always stand in solidarity with the poor, marginalized and oppressed. While having a consistent life ethic means more than just being anti-abortion, and while we know we have to continue to fight for the health care of mothers, providing a better community for children born in poverty, and provide adequate care for children in the foster system, we must stand in clear opposition to this heinous law that undermines the truth about the human person, and further oppresses women and leaves people hurt in its wake. As Pope Francis recently stated about human abortion: "Their killing in huge numbers, with the endorsement of States, is a serious problem that undermines the foundations of the construction of justice, compromising the proper solution of any other human and social issue." Let us unite as a Church to be the voice for the voiceless. Let us stand for life!

Fr. Casey







## SEE THE SAINTS, SHRINES AND, SITES OF FRANCE WITH FR. CASEY

See the Saints, shrines and, sites of France with Fr. Casey on a riverboat Cruise. October 19-30, 2019, Fr. Casey will be assisting on a pilgrimage hosted by historical theologian, Dr Marcellino D'Ambrosio, whom you may know from his books and appearances on EWTN. We will see all the sights in Paris; travel to the shrines of France by riverboat Cruise; visit the beaches of Normandy in commemoration of the upcoming 75th anniversary of D-Day and tour the shrines in tombs of saints such as St. Thomas Aquinas, St.Thérèse of Lisieux, St. Catherine Laboure (of The miraculous medal), St. Joan of Arc and others.

Our pilgrimage will conclude at the shrine of Our Lady of Lourdes, where documented miraculous healings have been happening since 1858. You are invited to join in this life-changing experience. Please email Fr. Casey or call him at the Parish office for more information.

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# EVENTS

## Mon, February 11

7 pm Eng. Prayer Group (FF)  
7 pm Spanish Emmaus Men (PC)

## Tues, Feb 12

9 am Our Lady Undoer of Knots (JD)  
10:30 am Rosary Makers (JD)  
6 pm Lectors Meet (C)  
7 pm Emmaus Coordinator (small chapel room)  
7-9 pm Spanish RCIA (JD)  
7-9 pm Sp prayer coordinators meet (CC)  
7 pm Clase de guitarra (C)

## Wed, February 13

6:30-7:30 RCIA English (FF)  
6:30 pm Sp. Choir Practice (C)  
7 pm Sp. Bible Class (JD)  
7 pm Emmaus Women (SC)

## Thurs, February 14

3 pm English Children's Choir (C)  
7 pm English Adult Choir (C)

## Building Codes

C - Church  
CC - Children's Chapel  
FF - Faith Formation  
JD - Juan Diego Rm  
MR - Meeting Room  
O - Office  
PC - Parish Center  
SC - School Cafeteria  
S - School  
SG - School Gymnasium



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