



PONTIFICIUM CONSILIUM
PRO FAMILIA

Prot. N. 73/90

Vatican City, March 21, 1994

The Rev. Frank A. Pavone, M.A.
National Director
PRIESTS FOR LIFE
P.O. Box 141172
Staten Island, NY 10314
U.S.A.

Dear Father Pavone,

First of all, congratulations are in order for your new position as National Director for **PRIESTS FOR LIFE**. May the Lord bless and give you the wisdom, prudence and strength to carry out successfully the work for which you were elected and for which His Eminence John Cardinal O'Connor, Archbishop of New York, most graciously allows you to work full time. Cardinal O'Connor is devoted to pro-life causes and is for you all an example and inspiration.

I remember when I first came to know **PRIESTS FOR LIFE** and now see, to my great satisfaction, how the association has grown. Fathers Kaylor, Cipriano and Kiefer have a great deal to be proud of and thankful for, and I am sure that you will continue the work they started as you take over along with Father James Heyd as Associate National Director. Would you kindly convey to him also my heartfelt and prayerful congratulations. Thank you.

I am delighted to see that **PRIESTS FOR LIFE** is associated with so many dioceses and that the bishops are giving you the support you need in this vital ministry. Let us hope that this support increases as well as the priest members. Pro-Life is Pro-Jesus: "I am the Life" (Jn 14:5) said He.

With regard to the questions you put to me. I think that having a uniform national policy forbidding any public figure who holds a "pro-choice" position to speak in any Catholic institution should be the normal consequence of the Church's - and the U. S. Episcopal Conference's - own pro-life position. Since the policy is to be national you should speak to the Conference. You should speak the matter over with Cardinal O'Connor and the other bishops on your Board of Advisors for their opinion and, if possible, their help. I am also in favor of a well-promoted national day of fast and abstinence in reparation for abortion. Again, this would be a matter to place before the Episcopal Conference.

I have a very important matter to submit for your consideration. Just recently I received the enclosed Diocesan NFP Program - Profile Sheet. You will see that NFP needs to be promoted. The profile sheet points out how much this promotion depends upon the diocesan bishop and his priests (cf. "a)" of the Overview of findings). The reason I ask you to consider this matter is that the contraceptive mentality - in which life is separated from love - is the cause of abortion as well as of the culture of death in general. Humanae vitae must be promoted among the priests so that the faithful may be informed of the splendor of truth which it contains for all humanity. Apart from the many babies it would save from being aborted, it would also teach spouses the meaning of true love which is always sacrificial and would enhance communication so as to lessen the divorce rate with its consequences upon the child.

Thank you for keeping me informed and may the Lord and our Blessed Mother bless **PRIESTS FOR LIFE**, you, your fellow priest members and your work for the coming of God's kingdom.

In the Lord,

A. Card. López Trujillo

Alfonso Cardinal López Trujillo
PRESIDENT

P.S. I am also enclosing for your information a leaflet explaining the Pontifical Council for the Family.

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