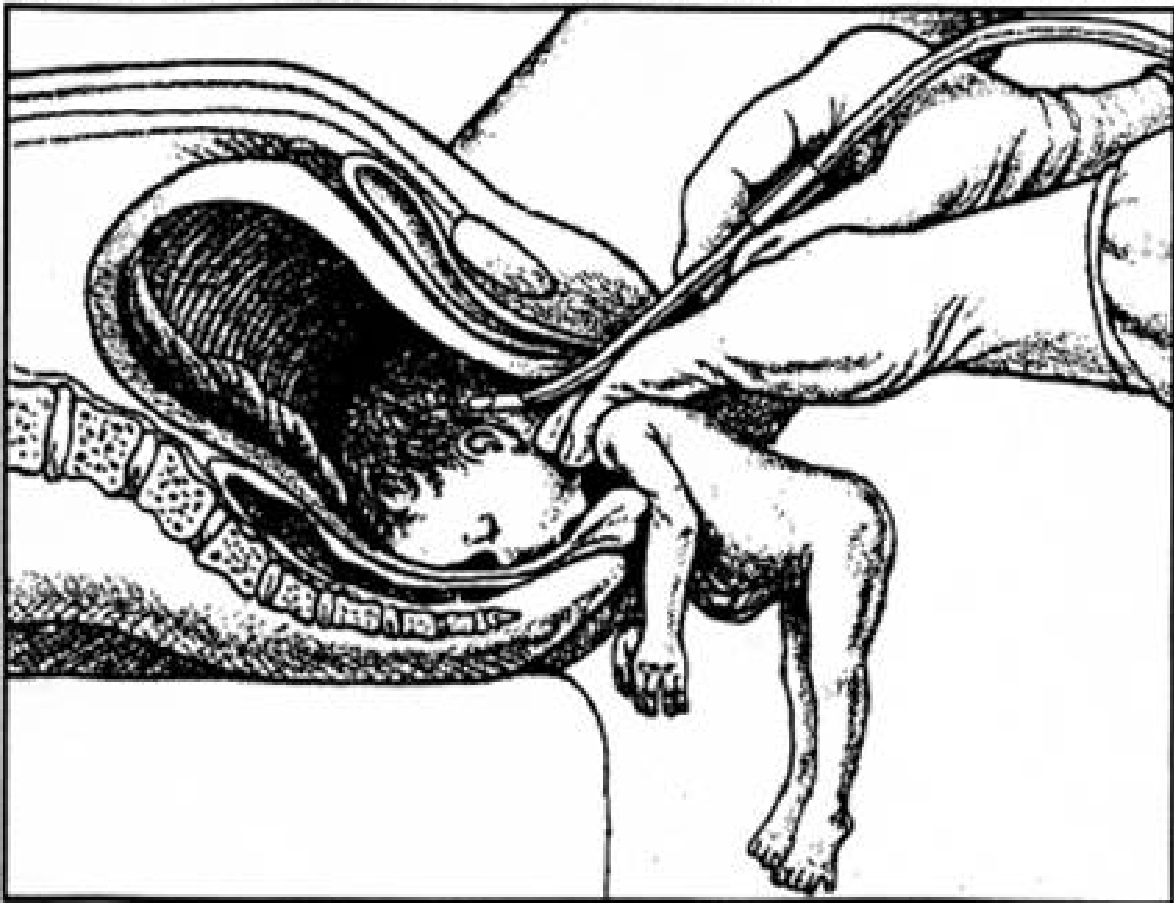


Fatima Mirror

A weekly publication for the education and edification of parishioners and friends of Our Lady of Fatima Parish of the Catholic Diocese of Altoona-Johnstown in Altoona, Pennsylvania. Most Reverend Joseph V. Adamec, D.D. is the diocesan bishop. Father J.D. Zatalava, M.Div. is the pastor. Parishioners worship in the church building named after Saint Leo the Great, 2000 12th Ave. 16601. 814-942-0371.

Late Second and Third Trimester Partial Birth Abortion



The surgeon pulls the fetus into the breech position. He forces scissors into the skull, removes them and inserts a suction catheter through which he suctions out the skull contents.

A select panel convened by ACOG could identify no circumstances under which this procedure ... would be the only option to save the life or preserve the health of the woman." ***American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists Statement of Policy, January 12, 1997.***

Thank you, Nancy Pelosi!

by Phil Lawler, August 27, 2008

In the course of your memorable interview with Tom Brokaw, Madam Speaker, you accomplished several things that battle-weary pro-life activists might have considered impossible.

1. You introduced an argument so profoundly stupid that not even pro-abortion editorialists could accept it.

In the 1970s, when abortion supporters concocted a myth about the thousands of poor women who were supposedly injured by back-alley operators, the media pounced on the story and treated it as established fact, without looking for evidence (which they would not have found). In the 1980s, when the pitch-men abortion industry rolled out their campaign based upon "a woman's choice," editorial writers began chanting that phrase like a mantra. But when you based your argument on supposed confusion about whether life begins at conception, and invoked the outdated biological theories of St. Augustine to buttress that argument, you went too far. Not even a liberal journalist will stake his credibility on the scientific understanding of the early 5th century.

In a Los Angeles Times column that was thoroughly sympathetic toward the proponents of legal abortion, and hostile to the teaching of the Catholic Church, Tim Rutten nevertheless found it necessary to distance himself from your line of thought. "If Pelosi had half a wit about her," Rutten wrote, before suggesting what he considered a more plausible approach. Liberals feel obliged to offer different arguments, because they recognize your argument as a sure loser.

2. You turned attention away from the scandal in the Catholic Church.

For the first times since the turn of the 21st century, American newspapers have been cluttered with stories about the Catholic Church that do not mention the sex-abuse crisis. Your interview drew attention away from the scandal. Or perhaps I should say that you called attention to another scandal, because...

3. You prompted American bishops to issue clear teaching statements on abortion and the duties of Catholic political actors.

Denver's Archbishop Charles Chaput might have felt lonely, as he took a courageous public stand against the notion that loyal Catholics can plausibly support unrestricted abortion. With Archbishop Raymond Burke having been promoted from the St. Louis archdiocese to a key Vatican post, no other metropolitan archbishop in the US was prepared to take such an unequivocal stand. But you, Madam Speaker, changed that.

Within hours of your television interview, the Archbishop of Washington had issued a public statement correcting you. The cardinal-archbishop of Philadelphia weighed in, and the chairman of the US bishops' committee on doctrine, and the cardinal-archbishop of New York. Now American bishops are competing with each other to issue the strongest, clearest explanation of Catholic voters' duties. That competition can only serve to advance the pro-life cause, and the cause of Catholic orthodoxy.

Fatima Facts

4. You ensured that abortion would remain a major issue throughout this year's campaign.

At the Saddleback Forum, when he was asked whether human life begins at conception, Barack Obama wisely tried to wriggle out of the question. But his exit line-- that the issue was "above my pay grade"-- was awkward and unsatisfactory, and other interviewers began to press the question, making life difficult for your party's presidential nominee. Then you, Madam Speaker, plunged headlong into the rhetorical whirlpool, and redoubled public interest in the question of abortion-- and, more particularly, the question of when human life begins.

Your claim that a loyal Catholic can support unrestricted abortion was particularly timely, coming just when Obama named another Catholic Democrat, Joe Biden, as his running-mate. Suddenly Biden found himself in the midst of a heated debate. The Obama-Biden team is promising "hope for the future." Now the Democratic candidates are forced to defend the biology of the past.

Senator McCain has seen an opportunity, and issued a ringing re-affirmation of his pro-life stance. So the political battle is joined, and the arguments for and against legal abortion will be revisited frequently between now and November.

Since truth is on our side, we pro-lifers welcome that public debate. Especially because...

5. You focused public attention on a scientific fact that proponents of "choice" cannot explain away.

St. Augustine was wrong about fetal development. We all know that today. Intelligent readers still consult St. Augustine's theological opinions, but his scientific hypotheses are completely untenable in light of the scientific evidence.

Any Catholic boy or girl, eight years old, having made First Communion, and who has the signed permission and weekly support of a parent or guardian, is eligible to apply to become an Altar Server. To serve at the Altar of God is a privilege based on community necessity, not a right incumbent on the individual. This community needs about nine new servers to replace those who have gone on to other things. Father Z, with assistance from old-timers, will conduct half hour training sessions after all weekend Masses during September. The parent figure must be present.

The Fatima Apparition of September 13, 1917

Despite the ridicule and jokes of the secular, atheistic press, more than 30,000 people gathered in the Cova for the September apparition. Whether drawn by devotion or curiosity, they prayed the rosary while awaiting the arrival of the visionaries and their vision. When at least the time came they could hear Lucia say, "What do you want of me?" And Mary said, "Continue the Rosary, my children. Say it every day that war may end.

MASS INTENTIONS FOR September 8-14, 2008

Monday	9/08	08:00 AM	Walter Bieniek, Mrs. Stella Gates & Fam	<i>Nativity of the Bl. Virgin Mary</i>
Tuesday	9/09	08:00 AM	Health of Don Shuma, C. Smith	<i>Peter Claver, Priest</i>
Wednesday	9/10	08:00 AM	Health of Chuck Hennigan, C. Smith	<i>Weekday</i>
Thursday	9/11	08:00 AM	Wally Jorkasky, Ed & Patti Boslet	<i>Weekday</i>
Friday	9/12	08:00 AM	John Bacza, Sonny/Roseann Hough Fam	<i>Holy Name of Mary</i>
Saturday	9/13	04:30 PM	Lavina Sheehan, M/M Greg Querry * Fam	<i>24th Sun in Ordinary Time</i>
Sunday	9/14	09:00 AM	Liv/Dec of Our Lady of Fatima Parish	<i>24th Sun in Ordinary Time</i>
Sunday	9/14	11:00 AM	Denise Keagy, Carol Smith	<i>24th Sun in Ordinary Time</i>