

**Bulletin # 102656**

**Our Lady of Fatima  
2010 12th Avenue  
Altoona, PA 16601**

**814-942-0371**

**Attn: Carol Smith**

**MESSAGES:**

**Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**February 14-15, 2009**

# **Fatima Mirror**

Visit our Web site at: [ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org](http://ourladyoffatimaaltoona.org) - Send us a Fax at: 814-942-0372 - Give us a call at: 814-942-0371



**This Past Week  
24,300 More American Citizens  
were tortured to death  
in U.S. Abortuaries**



Our new President and Congress face serious national challenges at this time, requiring all Americans to unite for the common good of all. This is no time to divide our nation by attacking the weakest and most powerless among us, or ignoring the pro-life values of millions of Catholics and other Americans.

A bill which might be introduced in Congress called the "Freedom of Choice Act," or FOCA, represents the most serious legislative threat to unborn children ever. FOCA would create a "fundamental right" to abortion that government could not limit but would be required to fund and support. It would overturn a broad range of pro-life policies currently allowed under the Supreme Court's *Roe v. Wade* abortion decision: laws protecting parental involvement in an underage daughter's abortion decision, laws upholding conscience rights, limits on abortion funding, bans on partial-birth abortion, and so on.

FOCA itself may become law, or the harmful policies it represents may become law one step at a time. In either case, we must oppose FOCA and all that it stands for. Today parishioners have an opportunity to sign and send postcards to their U.S. Representative and two U.S. Senators. The message on the cards urges our federal elected officials to oppose FOCA and to retain existing laws against government funding and promotion of abortion.

If each of us takes just a few moments to sign the postcards, together we can send an important message to our nation's Capitol to uphold the sanctity of human life. Please complete the cards before leaving church today. A small donation of \$1.00 will help pay for postage and program materials.

Please feel free to add a short personal note on each postcard to increase the effectiveness of your message.

Thank you for making your voice heard on this important matter.

***SIGN PRO-LIFE POSTCARDS! Today our parish, along with thousands of other parishes across the nation, will sign postcards urging Congress to oppose the "Freedom of Choice Act" (FOCA) and to retain existing laws against government funding and promotion of abortion. Sign a postcard to your U.S. Representative and your two U.S. Senators. Let your voice be heard! Thank you for standing up for life at this important time!***

## Vatican's Chief Judge: Bishops have no Choice But to Refuse Communion to Pro-Abort Politicians

By Hilary White

ROME, January 30, 2009 (LifeSiteNews.com) - Archbishop Raymond Burke told LifeSiteNews that the issue of pro-abortion politicians continuing to receive Holy Communion is still one of major concern and that it is the duty of bishops to ensure that they are refused.

"I don't understand the continual debate that goes on about it. There's not a question that a Catholic who publicly, and after admonition, supports pro-abortion legislation is not to receive Holy Communion and is not to be given Holy Communion."

"The Church's law is very clear," said Archbishop Burke, who was appointed last year by Pope Benedict XVI as the head of the Church's highest court, the Apostolic Signatura. "The person who persists publicly in grave sin is to be denied Holy Communion, and it [Canon Law] doesn't say that the bishop shall decide this. It's an absolute."

Archbishop Burke was one of around a dozen who vigorously supported a directive of the Vatican that said pro-abortion Catholic politicians "must be refused" Holy Communion if they attempt to receive at Mass. Others have refused to abide by the Vatican instruction and the Church's own Code of Canon Law, saying they would rather focus on "education" of such politicians.

Archbishop Burke called "nonsense" the accusation, regularly made by some bishops, that refusing Holy Communion "makes the Communion rail a [political] battle ground". In fact, he said, the precise opposite is true. The politician who insists on being seen receiving Holy Communion, despite his opposition to the Church's central teachings, is using that reception for political leverage.

In 2004, when self-proclaimed Catholic and candidate for the Democrat party, Sen. John Kerry, was frequently photographed receiving Holy Communion despite his vigorous support of abortion, the US Bishops Conference issued a document which said only that it is up to individual bishops whether to implement the Church's code of Canon Law and refuse Communion. The issue has remained prominent with the appointment of Joe Biden, another pro-abortion Catholic politician, as Vice President of the United States of America.

Archbishop Burke recalled previous experiences with Kerry. "He wanted to not only receive Holy Communion from a bishop but from the papal representative. I think that's what his point was. Get it in Time magazine, so people read it and say to themselves, 'He must be in good standing'. 'What are these Catholic politicians doing? They're using the Eucharist as a political tool.'"

Archbishop Burke also dismissed the commonly proffered excuse that such politicians need more "education". Speaking from his own direct experience, he said that Catholic politicians who are informed by their pastors or bishops that their positions in support of pro-abortion legislation make it impossible for them to receive Holy Communion: "I've always found that they don't come forward [to receive]."

"When you talk to these people, they know," he said. "They know what they're doing is very wrong. They have to answer to God for that, but why through our pastoral negligence add on to that, that they have to answer to God for who knows how many unworthy receptions of Holy Communion?"

Archbishop Burke said the Conference has no authority in the matter. "This is a law of the universal Church and it should be applied. Individual bishops and priests simply have to do their duty. They have to confront politicians, Catholic politicians, who are sinning gravely and publicly in this regard. And that's their duty. "And if they carry it out, not only can they not be reproached for that, but they should be praised for confronting this situation."



Father Zatalava and Archbishop Raymond Burke at a Conservative Clergy meeting in St. Louis, MO.

**MONEY MATTERS****Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time (February 8)**

268 people Celebrated Liturgy at O.L.F. contributing \$ 2,072.51 of which \$ 290.40 accounted for "loose".

# Envelopes In Circulation      229                      # Used                      108                      # Unused                      121

Post-abortion healing: 814-884-8000 Confidential, compassionate. For women, men, relatives, friends hurt by abortion. Helpful websites: noparh.org; abortionchangesyou.com; menandabortion.info (not .org); rachelsvineyard.org.

We are facing the most serious threat to pro-life policies ever—the "Freedom of Choice Act", or FOCA. This bill would create a right to abortion the government could not limit and bring about a national abortion policy far worse the U.S. Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade decision. For the first time, abortion would become an entitlement the government must fund and promote. Citizens would lose the freedom they now have to enact even modest regulation of abortion industry. FOCA would:

- Eliminate regulations that protect women from unsafe clinics and unscrupulous abortionists
- Force American taxpayers to fund abortions
- Force every state to allow partial-birth abortions—its sponsors have said a primary purpose of the bill is to ensure that killing partially born children will again be permitted nationwide
- Run roughshod over the conscience rights of physicians, nurses and hospitals that oppose abortion on religious, moral or ethical grounds
- Strip parents of their right and responsibility to be involved in their minor daughter's abortion decision

Simply put, if FOCA becomes law, it will put at risk all the widely-supported laws that for 35 years have promoted women's health, ensured informed consent, protected minors, ensured parental involvement, safeguarded rights of conscience, and respected the desire of most citizens not to support abortion with their tax dollars.

FOCA also explicitly encourages challenges in court against any law or regulation that protects unborn children and their mothers and families in the abortion context, promising a virtual cottage industry of lawsuits.

And FOCA's tentacles would reach beyond federal policies to every state and local or regulation having to do with abortion.

FOCA is without doubt the most radical abortion legislation ever considered in the United States.

Abortion supporters have been trying pass FOCA since 1989—and now we have a Congress more disposed than in recent years to pass the bill, and a new President who has said he will sign the measure into law.

**MASS INTENTIONS FOR February 16-22, 2009**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>02/16</b>	<b>08:00 AM</b>	<b>Robert P Breslin, B Weakland</b>	<i>Weekday</i>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>02/17</b>	<b>08:00 AM</b>	<b>Joseph Boslet/Anv, Wife Marian</b>	<i>7 Founders /Order of Servites, religious</i>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>02/18</b>	<b>08:00 AM</b>	<b>Special Intention, Janet Pufka</b>	<i>Weekday</i>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>02/19</b>	<b>08:00 AM</b>	<b>Special Intention, M/M Hennigan</b>	<i>Weekday</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>02/20</b>	<b>08:00 AM</b>	<b>Walter Bieniek, Bob, Corynne Arnett &amp; Family</b>	<i>Weekday</i>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>02/21</b>	<b>04:30 PM</b>	<b>Sally Colledge, Husband Pete</b>	<i>7th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>02/22</b>	<b>09:00 AM</b>	<b>Vincent Farabaugh/6th Anv, Jeanie &amp; Family</b>	<i>7th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>02/22</b>	<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>Liv/Dec'd of Our Lady of Fatima Parishioners</b>	<i>7th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>