Priests For Life

Why We Rejoice - Even as We Fight for More

www.ProLifeCentral.org

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Dear Father/Deacon:

I'd like to share a few thoughts with you from my recent article published by LifeNews.com.

Rejoicing in the Lord and giving thanks for His victories is a clear command of God's Word. We are told to rejoice not only in good times but always (Phil. 4:4), and to give thanks not only for blessings but for all things (1 Thess. 5:18).

We are truly in good times now. The pro-life movement saw the reversal of *Roe v. Wade* three years ago. Last November, we saw election victories that not only advance our cause but protect the freedoms we need to fight for life—freedom of speech, religion, and peaceful protest. Now we have the greatest pro-life victory since *Dobbs*: the cutting off of the largest government funding stream for Planned Parenthood and the abortion industry.

So we rejoice and give thanks. Some won't rejoice, pointing out that *Dobbs* did not guarantee the protection of any babies and that the new funding ban lasts only one year instead of ten. These facts are true—we do want more. But our dissatisfaction must be matched by rejoicing, for "the joy of the Lord must be your strength" (Neh. 8:10). When the people heard the Law and wept over their failures, Nehemiah called them to rejoice, because that joy would strengthen them to continue the fight. So it is with us.

Even if the funding ban were ten years, we could rightly demand that it be permanent. And if it were permanent, we could rightly say funding bans aren't enough—we must end abortion itself. There is always more ground to conquer, but victories already won are reason to rejoice.

The *Dobbs* decision did not outlaw abortion but put the courts in "neutral," no longer blocking states from protecting the unborn. Under *Roe*, we were in reverse. To get to "drive," where courts require protection for the unborn, we must first pass through neutral—and that is progress worth celebrating.

Incremental laws that protect some babies are also victories. No abortion is ever justified. But if imperfect laws protect even some babies from death, we have a duty to pass them, because those babies have a right to protection now, not after some other consensus emerges. Times are good—and evil. We must weep for the ongoing killing but also rejoice in each step forward. This rejoicing gives us strength to win more victories.

Rejoice in the Lord always!

Please fax this back to 321-225-8271

Prolife Leader Frank Pavone
National Director, Priests for Life

Yes, I will share this with my parish! (I am a Deacon Priest) PLEASE PRINT:

Name: _____ Email: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Parish or Institution: _____

City, State: _____