



PARISH 'LIFE' NEWS

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North American Martyrs Parish



Executions at 25-Year Low

The nation is on pace to execute the fewest inmates since 1991, as the death penalty's prevalence continues to slide. State authorities executed 17 people since Jan 1, a 32% drop from the 25 executions in the first 10 months of 2015.

A combination of forces—a dwindling supply of lethal drugs, a key US Supreme Court decision and growing scrutiny of expert testimony and evidence—have contributed to the slowdown in executions, legal experts said.

[The Wall Street Journal 10/24/16](#)



The Obama Administration is About To Make International Adoption A Lot Harder

The Department of State under the Obama Administration recently released new proposed rules about international adoption that many adoption agencies say could make the process much more difficult. The department said its intent is to protect adoptive families and children, but a group of more than 80 adoption groups say the proposed rules could hurt families more than help them.

Chuck Johnson, president of the National Council for Adoption, told The Federalist he is concerned that the new accreditation rule could be used to discriminate against smaller agencies and faith-based agencies.

One proposal could potentially increase legal liability and insurance expenses to an astronomical level by requiring adoption agencies to insure every person in the U.S. and abroad who is involved in the adoption process in any way, according to the letter. This includes “drivers, translators and even state orphanage workers over whom an agency has no control,” the Federalist noted.

International adoptions already can be prohibitively expensive for many families, and with fewer countries allowing adoptions to the U.S., these new proposed rules could shut out the opportunity for even more families who hope to offer a loving home to an orphan child.

<http://www.lifenews.com/2016/11/03/the-obama-administration->

Pope Francis Allows Priests to Forgive “Grave Sin” of Abortion: “There is No Sin God’s Mercy Can’t Reach”

In a new letter issued November 21, Pope Francis has made the decision to allow Catholic priests to forgive what he called the grave sin of abortion. The head of the Catholic Church acknowledged that there is no sin that God’s grace and mercy cannot cover.

“I wish to restate as firmly as I can that abortion is a grave sin, since it puts an end to an innocent life,” the pope wrote in the letter. “In the same way, however, I can and must state that there is no sin that God’s mercy cannot reach and wipe away when it finds a repentant heart seeking to be reconciled with the Father. May every priest, therefore, be a guide, support and comfort to penitents on this journey of special reconciliation.”

The pope indicated he was extending the ability to absolve abortions “lest any obstacle arise between the



Cardinal Dolan Calls for Renewed Fight Against Doctor-Assisted Suicide

The Washington, DC, City Council and the voters of Colorado both recently acted to legalize doctor-prescribed suicide. Cardinal Timothy Dolan of New York, chair of the U.S. bishops’ Committee on Pro-Life Activities, called for increased efforts to fight against assisted suicide, saying it must be “opposed with renewed vigor.”

“Every suicide is tragic, whether someone is young or old, healthy or sick. But the legalization of doctor-assisted suicide creates two classes of people: those whose suicides are to be prevented at any cost, and those whose suicides are deemed a positive good. We remove weapons and drugs that can cause harm to one group, while handing deadly drugs to the other, setting up yet another kind of life-threatening discrimination. This is completely unjust. Our inherent human dignity does not wane with the onset of illness or incapacity, and so all are worthy of protection. The act of prescribing a fatal, poisonous dose, moreover, undermines the very heart of medicine. Doctors vow to do no harm, and yet assisted suicide is the ultimate abandonment of their patients.

In 2011, the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops issued a statement on assisted suicide, “To Live Each Day with Dignity.” The full text, as well as information on the Catholic Church’s advocacy on end-of-life issues, is



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Operations: **cosmetics** (Burt's Bees, güd), **home** (cleaning: Ayudin, Chux, Dispatch, Formula 409, Glad, Green Works, Liquid-Plumr, Mistolin, Pine-Sol, Poett, SOS, Tilex, water filtration: Brita), **foods** (dressings/sauces: Hidden Valley, KC Masterpiece, Kitchen Bouquet, Soy Vay, preparation: Kingsford charcoal, storage: Glad), **medications/treatments** (antiseptics: Aplicare, Citrac), **personal care** (Burt's Bees, güd), **pet care** (litter: Ever Clean, Fresh Step, Scoop Away).

Please write to:

Mr. Benno Dorer, CEO
The Clorox Company
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Tell him to
stop
funding
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Clorox was added to the most recent issue of The Boycott List (2016, vol. XXV, no. 1). Per that same issue, Life Decisions International reports that "so far, at least 337 corporations have stopped funding Planned Parenthood since this List was first published ... Planned Parenthood has been denied more than \$45 million in corporate support.



Chemical Abortions Now Almost As Common As Surgical Abortions

Reviewing Planned Parenthood's 2014 reported data, Reuters found that

chemical abortions are on the rise, making up 43% of the total abortions at the nation's largest abortion conglomerate.

Danco Labs, the manufacturer of abortion drugs for the US market, sought to expand its customer base and the Obama administration issued new federal guidelines last March that allowed the deadly chemicals to be prescribed as late as 10 weeks gestation, up from seven. The result was chemical abortions tripled in some states.

Mifepristone, or RU486, blocks a vital nutrient hormone, causing the baby to literally starve to death in utero. Other chemicals are given to the mother to soften and expand her cervix and/or generate uterine contractions so that she will deliver her dead baby.

Called the "first Human Pesticide," RU486 is manufactured by an offshoot of the same corporation that supplied Hitler with Zyklon B gas used in death camps. RU486 was formulated in the 1980s and legalized in England in 1991. Banned in the US under George HW Bush, the Clinton administration brought RU486 to the US without requiring further clinical trials.

According to the FDA, in the first five years of use, there were more than 1,050 serious medical problems experienced. In New York, Hawaii, Washington and Oregon, abortion drugs are sent by mail.

LifeSiteNews.com 11/2/16



Assisted Suicide Has Had Dangerous Consequences, Colorado and New Jersey Could be Next

Over the past few years, battles have raged in nearly every state legislature over the controversial topic of physician-assisted suicide. Currently, bills are imminent in New Jersey and the District of Columbia. On the ballot this November in Colorado, voters will decide Initiative 145, known as the "Medical Aid in Dying Proposal."

While these bills will pose an immediate danger to vulnerable groups within those states, there is a real threat that these laws will spread to more states quickly, or even produce a new Supreme Court challenge.

In the four states* where the practice has been legalized (California, Oregon, Washington, and Vermont) these assisted suicide laws have had dangerous consequences, particularly in Oregon, where the law has been in place the longest. In Oregon, cancer patients Barbara Wagner and Randy Stroup's own doctors recommended treatment, but State Health Plan denied their request and reminded them of a suicide option. In practice, the lethal suicide drugs are relatively inexpensive and can be covered by insurance. Shockingly, under the current proposals, as well as under the existing laws, there is nothing to stop the government, or your insurer, from steering you to inexpensive suicide versus treatment.

Critics have noted that the Colorado Initiative, along with New Jersey's and D.C.'s bills are ripe for abuse. Surprisingly, those who might be suffering from depression (particularly understandable on the heels of an adverse medical diagnosis) or another mental illness can obtain lethal drugs. Astonishingly, there is no mechanism in the law to ensure screening for mental health.

Further, since no relationship with the doctor is required, or is any family member required to be contacted, critics warn that many patients who could have been treated will prematurely die. And in serious departure from traditional legal protection, heirs, who can inherit more money sooner, can be involved in the suicide.

<http://www.lifenews.com/2016/10/19/assisted-suicide-has-had-dangerous-consequences-colorado-and-new-jersey-could-be-next/>



Clarence Thomas Celebrates 25 Years on the Supreme Court Standing Up for Life

According to his autobiography "My Grandfather's Son," Thomas was born into a life of extreme poverty in Georgia. His grandparents took them in

and raised them when his mother struggled to care for him and his siblings. Thomas said his grandfather especially influenced his life, pushing him to work hard and get a good education. Thomas worked hard and eventually earned a law degree from Yale Law School.

From the time he was appointed to the Supreme Court in 1991, Thomas's views on the Constitutionality of abortion have been giving hope to pro-lifers and causing fury among abortion activists. He marked his 25th year on the court on Oct. 23.

<http://www.lifenews.com/2016/10/26/clarence-thomas-celebrates-25-years-on-the-supreme-court-standing-up-for-life/>